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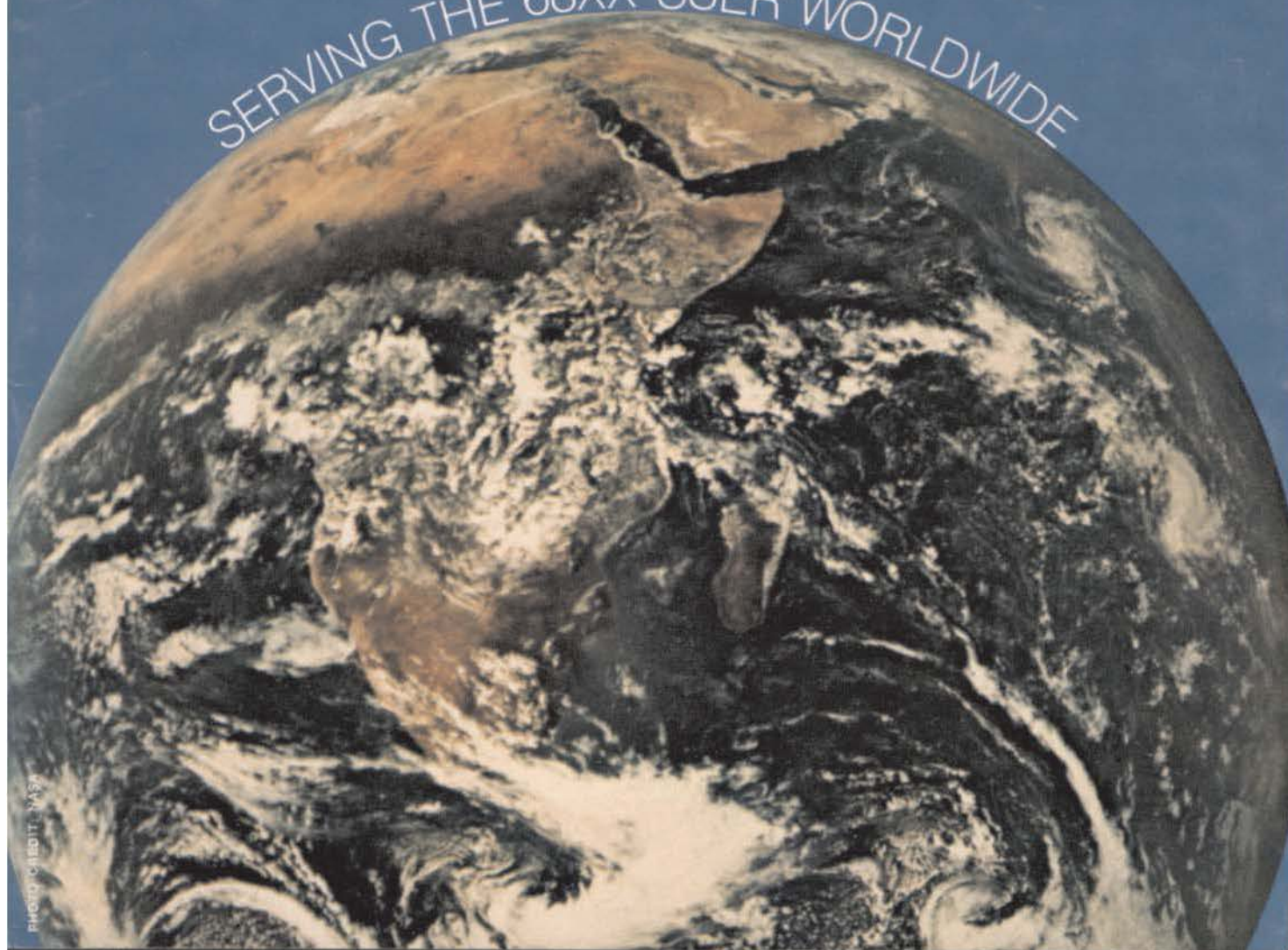
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MICRO JOURNAL

VOLUME III ISSUE X • Devoted to the 68XX User • October 1981
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UniFLEX™



Multi-User

UniFLEX is the first full capability multi-user operating system available for microprocessors. Designed for the 6809 and 68000, it offers its users a very friendly computing environment. After a user 'logs-in' with his user name and password, any of the system programs may be run at will. One user may run the text editor while another runs BASIC and still another runs the C compiler. Each user operates in his own system environment, unaware of other user activity. The total number of users is only restricted by the resources and efficiency of the hardware in use.



Multi-Tasking

UniFLEX is a true multi-tasking operating system. Not only may several users run different programs, but one user may run several programs at a time. For example, a compilation of one file could be initiated while simultaneously making changes to another file using the text editor. New tasks are generated in the system by the 'fork' operation. Tasks may be run in the background or 'locked' in main memory to assist critical response times. Inter-task communication is also supported through the 'pipe' mechanism.



Support

The design of UniFLEX, with its hierarchical file system and device independent I/O, allows the creation of a variety of complex support programs. There is currently a wide variety of software available and under development. Included in this list is a Text Processing System for word processing functions, BASIC interpreter and precompiler for general programming and educational use, native C and Pascal compilers for more advanced programming, sort/merge for business applications, and a variety of debug packages. The standard system includes a text editor, assembler, and about forty utility programs. UniFLEX for 6809 is sold with a single CPU license and one year maintenance for \$450.00. Additional yearly maintenance is available for \$100.00. OEM licenses are also available.

FLEX™

UniFLEX is offered for the advanced microprocessor systems. FLEX, the industry standard for 6800 and 6809 systems, is offered for smaller, single user systems. A full line of FLEX support software and OEM licenses are also available.



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'68'

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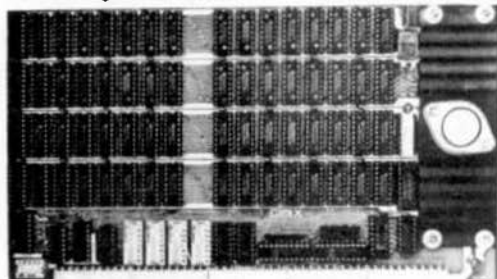
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see page 56 for more details on GIMIXTM disk controllers



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SEE GHOST AD PAGES 46-51-56

BASIC09™ has a dual personality.

**One
craves
meat-and-
potatoes
BASIC.**



**The
other
prefers
Programme
ala Pascal.**

Some people say BASIC09 is really a PASCAL in disguise, others say it's still BASIC. You'll understand this delightful dilemma when you look at both versions of the "bubble sort" program shown below: both can be run by BASIC09. The program on top is unstructured and hard to understand, but it's traditional BASIC. The program on the bottom is well-structured and easy to follow, a virtue of PASCAL. With BASIC09 you can program either way, or mix the best of both. It's like getting two languages for the price of one.



LOOP...ENDLOOP, FOR...NEXT and IF...THEN...ELSE. If one of the five built-in data types (byte, integer, real, string, and boolean) doesn't suit the problem, you can make a new one of your liking with the TYPE statement. Need a tree, linked list, or symbol table? Complex non-rectangular data structures using any combination of data types are easy to define. Modular programming breaks down large programs to smaller, more manageable elements. BASIC09 lets you create independent program modules called "procedures" with local variables for recursion plus parameter passing to any other BASIC09 or machine language procedure. There is a complete set of statements for device-independent sequential or random I/O, plus a superlative PRINT USING system.

Makes programs faster

No full-feature BASIC for any 8-bit microprocessor is faster than BASIC09, because it is an interactive compiler. As each program line is entered, it is instantly compiled to a smaller, faster form. Because BASIC09 automatically converts programs back to original "source" form for listing, it is as friendly and easy-to-use as traditional interpreter BASICs. Each procedure can be independently compiled to position-independent, relocatable, ROMable format. Microware® developed a new ultra-fast 9-digit-accuracy floating point math system just for BASIC09. And if that's still

not fast enough, there's BYTE and INTEGER arithmetic.

Features that make programs easier to write

The compiler is integrated with a full-feature string AND line-number oriented text editor. If you make a mistake, BASIC09 tells you instantly. String-oriented commands such as search, change, change all occurrences, delete, and insert can be used on programs with or without line numbers. There's an automatic line renumbering function too.

Features that make programs easy to test

Debugging often takes longer than writing a program. That's why BASIC09's integral high-level debugger sets it apart from all other compiled OR interpretive languages. The TRACE command shows you each statement executed in BASIC form, plus the result of any expression evaluation. STEP lets you run one or more statements at a time. LET and PRINT allow you to examine or change the values of variables, by name. STATE lists procedure calling order. And there are nine other debug commands. If you need to correct a program, you can edit, recompile, and rerun it in seconds.

Microware® software is available for most popular 6809 computer systems. Source listings and yearly maintenance update service are sold separately for most programs.

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SORT AN ARRAY IN ASCENDING SEQUENCE

```

90 DIM A(5)
100 I=5
110 IF I=1 THEN 200
120 FOR J=1 TO I-1
130 IF A(J)>A(J+1) THEN 170
140 T=A(J+1)
150 A(J+1)=A(J)
160 A(J)=T
170 NEXT J
180 I=I-1
190 GOTO 110
200 RETURN
    
```

```

DIM array(5)
outer=5
WHILE outer>1 DO
  outer=outer-1
  FOR inner=1 TO outer
    IF array(inner)>array(inner+1) THEN
      temp=array(inner+1)
      array(inner+1)=array(inner)
      array(inner)=temp
    ENDIF
  NEXT inner
ENDWHILE
RETURN
    
```

Makes programs better

BASIC09 has five kinds of loop structures: WHILE...DO, REPEAT...UNTIL,



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Does timesharing on a small system make sense?

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Now two (or more) acts can share your microcomputer stage. You will no longer have to walk away from your computer while it is busy running a long program. Because OS-9 is a multitasking operating system, you can be running a BASIC program while editing a PASCAL program, for example. This lets you make more efficient use of your time and your system, even if you only use one terminal. If your application requires multiple, independent terminals, one OS-9 system can do the work of several single-user systems.

The convenience of an advanced operating system

Sophistication does not require complexity. Many OS-9 users say that it is actually easier to use than the older 6800-type operating systems. Consider how easy it is to run multiple programs: to run a program you just type its name and hit 'return.' To run a program as a separate job, you type its name, an '&' character, then hit return. The program runs as usual, but OS-9 comes back immediately and is ready for your next command. Simple commands let you see each program's status, set its priority, or abort it.

The file management system has fast, byte-addressable random and sequential-access files. The tree-structured multiple directory system lets you create separate disk directories for each user, project, or

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Efficiency and hardware versatility

No other operating system can run on such a broad range of hardware: the overall RAM requirement for Level One is 32K to 56K RAM. Memory utilization is superlative because OS-9 lets multiple tasks "share" the same reentrant program. For example, if two users run BASIC09, only one "copy" is actually loaded into memory. The Level Two version of OS-9 can utilize up to a megabyte of memory on systems having memory management hardware (both versions come with complete timesharing support).

OS-9's device independent I/O system can handle almost any number and combination of I/O

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COMING SOON

META—X—FORTH
Create romable code from
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OS-9 VERSION
COMING

By Charles (Chuck) Eaker, Ph.D

X-FORTH NEWS

COMING SOON . . .

OSBORNE GENERAL LEDGER in X-FORTH for FLEX and OS-9

This is the same G/L program that you usually see in BASIC but with the speed advantage of X-FORTH and of course runs much faster than the BASIC version. It does NOT require X-FORTH to run.

META-X-FORTH

This package will take an X-FORTH program and compile it into object code for any processor. This means that you can use X-FORTH to create programs for other computers. The code produced is romable.

OS-9 FORTH

We are taking X-FORTH and putting it on OS-9. This will mean that programs written in X-FORTH will run on both FLEX and OS-9 with minimal changes.

X-FORTH NOTES

If you are considering buying FORTH, then you are probably trying to decide which one of the two that are available for the 68XX to choose. Well, perhaps I can help by telling you some of the more major differences between the two.

X-FORTH runs in the FLEX (or OS-9) environment just like BASIC or any other FLEX program. The files that it uses are the same as any other FLEX program. This makes it compatible with other programs or utilities that you may have. The other FORTH is not. (see Ron Anderson's columns)

Supplied on one 8" Disk or 2, 5" disk(s) with a 400 page manual in a hard cover binder. Disk(s) have the source of everything but the core of X-FORTH, which will be available later at extra cost. You get it all!!!

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October 15th add \$10.00

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BY JIM SCHREIER

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The same "Record Code" concept is used to make operation simple. In fact, except for the speed, it's hard to tell that you're not in DATAMAN. You can add records to DATARAND just like in the "Append" section of DATAMAN file maintenance. When you need to use DATAMAN, you can copy the desired records to DATAMAN. You can also transfer records from DATARAND which takes care of file reorganization. DATARAND comes with an instruction manual and every line of source code.

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NEW

By Dick Bartholomew

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- 2... XREF Cross reference listing of BASIC programs.
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— Warning —

PASSWORD can be overcome if the user has access to another disk without password protection that will beat FLEX.

Programs are written in 6809 assembly language.

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From Dale Puckett

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From Peter Murray

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6800 OR 6809 Object Only \$ 49.95
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Upgrade from 6800 39.95

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by DIGITECH

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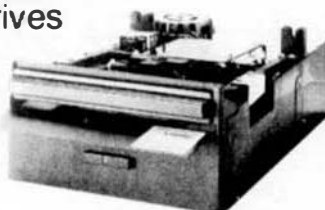
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Flex User Notes

BY: RONALD W. ANDERSON
3540 STRUBRIDGE COURT
ANN ARBOR, MI 48105

PRIMEST OF ALL PRIME PROGRAMS

In case you missed the July '68', there was a program by Brian Bailey to calculate the primes to 10000, written in 6809 Assembler and using the Sieve of Eratosthenes method. It finds the primes in 2 seconds flat, and then outputs them to your terminal. Comparing that with my previous results using a divide for a test, it is about 25 times faster than my primes program in TSC Pascal. It is about 15 times faster than the Wirth Algorithm in TSC Pascal. I have written a Sieve program in BASIC, and it ran significantly faster than my other method. I just happened to settle on the divide test method for comparisons of compilers. I will have to write my algorithm in Assembler and see how fast it runs too. Meanwhile, I don't think anyone will improve on Brian's program for speed, unless maybe on a 68000 running at 8 or 10 Mhz.

NEW FROM LUCIDATA

Lucidata has a new product. It is a set of utilities that allow you to read directories and copy text files from "foreign" disks. It will work presently with Mini-FLEX, Smoke Signal Broadcasting DOS68, and Digital Research CP/M disks. Since SSB doesn't use TSC's method of space compression for a text file, there is even a utility that will convert a SSB file to standard FLEX format after it has been read from the SSB disk to a FLEX disk. I tried the Mini-FLEX utilities with instant success. I've been trying to get a disk from a friend who has CP/M to try, but haven't yet obtained it.

Along with the Directory and Copy utilities, (or should I say COPY and CATALOG), there is a super utility called ANALYSIS. Analysis allows you to read a track, dump a sector, or do a statistical analysis of a track, that may be useful in determining why you can't read a particular foreign disk. All of the copy and catalog utilities are given in source code form. If you are able to do a track dump of some disk, and are smart enough or have enough time to dig, you may modify one of the copy utilities to work with another similar system. Consult Lucidata (or their ad in '68') for pricing details.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Since a few months ago when I wrote some critical things about FORTH documentation from the FORTH Interest Group, I've been severely stomped on by a couple of FORTH fans. Partly as a result of that column, I now have both tFORTH and XFORTH. Both work quite well. They have nicely done screen editors. Neither happened to have an editor version for my old AOM-3, so I had to get in and modify the supplied ones. They both have FORTH source screens for their editors, and the chore wasn't terribly difficult, about an evening each. In an effort to give FORTH a better try, I have managed to get the program REVERSE (see 101 Games in BASIC, published by Creative Computing, Morristown, NJ) translated into both versions of FORTH. There were some rather subtle differences in the way STRINGS work in the two versions, and I had some digging to do to make REVERSE work properly in both, but it is done, and the listing is half as long as the Pascal version. I have an Assembler program with lots of math routines, that lists 23 pages or so, and I decided to try converting it to FORTH too. I have all the calculation parts converted, probably about 12 pages worth, and it only took 5 screens, (less than two pages) of FORTH to do it. Further, it only took an evening to get it written and working.

I'd like to launch into a discussion of programming languages here. The main reason that languages are so different is that their authors (be they individuals, committees, or interest groups) started the language development with certain goals in mind. Not all languages are written with the same goals. For example, BASIC was written to be a beginner's language. It is intended to be easy to learn. It is sort of a way to "get your feet wet" with programming without having to make so many conscious decisions over details. Some people have felt that too many decisions were left out of BASIC. The most notable one being the ability to format the output of a number. Most of the extended BASIC compilers have added more or less standard output formatting features such as PRINT USING, etc.

BASIC's best feature, that of being easy to learn, does not mean that it is not a powerful language. I've found that I can do anything that I can do in other languages in BASIC too. The original BASIC was implemented as an interpreter as opposed to a compiler. It had, as do all interpreter BASIC versions, simple edit functions, so that a program could be edited and run interactively. If you have never used a compiler, you probably don't appreciate this interactive method of debugging a program. When I do what I would call "exploratory programming", the first steps toward working out an algorithm to solve a particular problem, I most often choose BASIC to work with. After I have something running, and find that I have an understanding of my problem, I switch to a compiled language to gain the speed that comes with a compiler over an interpreter.

Pascal was designed with quite another goal. Wirth's primary goal certainly was to design a language that would be excellent for teaching programming. Wirth is one of the foremost advocates of structured programming, so of course he would design the language to permit or even force the programmer to use structured programming techniques. The result is that a Pascal program listing is excellent documentation of the program. The structure of a program in Pascal is more formal than one in BASIC. It forces the programmer to think a bit longer about the variables he is going to use, and what they represent. A few of the extended BASIC's make a distinction between integer and floating point (Real) variables. Pascal makes a definite distinction between these types and has many other variable types.

As a result of the design of Pascal, a program written by a reasonably proficient programmer who has "caught the spirit" of Pascal is very easy for another programmer to read, understand, and change. In other words, the maintainability of the program is greatly enhanced by the structured approach.

My personal observation is that the amount of listing (number of lines of code) required to do a program in Pascal, is about 1/7 of that required to do the same program in Assembler. The amount of time required to debug the program is probably in about the same ratio.

Pascal may be implemented as an interpreter, but I know of no such implementations for the 68xx. It is more generally implemented as something between an interpreter and a compiler. The source is translated to a high level instruction code sequence known as Pseudo code or P-code. The P-code is designed to run a "hypothetical" computer that has certain features. The P-code is then run by means of a simple interpreter that makes the actual processor look like the hypothetical machine. The original idea was to make P-code standard so that compiled Pascal programs could be run on various computers, the only differences being in the P-code interpreter for that machine.

Because of speed limitations, some versions of Pascal have been written to be "native code" compilers. That is, they directly generate object code for the particular processor for which they were designed. These usually execute code 3 to 10 times faster than the P-code versions, though they generally produce code less efficiently, i.e. the number of bytes of output per page of listing may be greater with the native code versions.

FORTH was not designed to be easy to learn, nor was it primarily designed to be a structured language (though it does force structured programming since it has no GOTO statement, and many of the structured programming constructs have been added to it). I'm convinced that the primary goal of FORTH is to do a maximum amount of work with a minimum amount of source code. I never cease to be amazed that I can write a memory dump program in two lines. I did a Sine, Cosine, Arctangent (to 3 decimal places) program in three screens (one page) of source code. FORTH takes a lot of getting used to and a great deal of effort and memorization to gain reasonable proficiency in it. Once mastered, however, it will let you do a great deal in a short time. It is almost as interactive as BASIC, the editing and running of programs being possible without exiting FORTH. It comes complete with its own operating system and editor, which you can tailor for your needs.

FORTH is frustrating to learn because what some of the words do seems arbitrary and inconsistent with what other similar ones do. It requires a lot of memorization or a good familiarity with a glossary so you can refresh your memory quickly. Most of debugging of a FORTH program is in finding out that words don't quite do what you thought they did. With proficiency, however, comes the ability to do some complex things very fast.

Fortunately, we don't all have to like the same things. The multiplicity of programming languages just means that each of us can find a suitable one for our needs. Your choice will depend on what you want to do with your computer as well as your personality and method of working. It is very fortunate for us as 68xx users that we have quite a few choices. Soon we will be seeing another language called "C". Some of us will like it and some won't. It will be another choice.

ITS EASY AS PIE

I have really enjoyed the recent commercials for office computers in which the operator types in and corrects the phrase "It's easy as PIE". You've all probably read the review in '68' by Randy Lewis of PIE, the text editor from Programma International, written by Tom Crosley. Tom presented me with a copy of his latest version optimized for the 6809 when I met him at the NCC show in Chicago. I was impressed with the early version, but this one runs twice as fast when doing a string search or a "relocation" of the edit window. I am using it now to write this text. Tom has a few more features in mind to make PIE even more versatile. Watch for the announcement of the official 6809 version.

HOW TO SAVE THAT TEXT IN MEMORY

Have you ever spent an hour typing in a text and then found that a short power interruption or some other snag has bombed the FLEX disk drivers and you can't save the file? That just happened to me at this point in this text. I had a utility in FLEX2 to save a text file from memory, and last time I nearly lost a file due to a power failure. I was going to get that utility and convert it to 6809 FLEX9 form. At any rate, I wasn't about to give up and type my whole file all in again from scratch particularly since I had been generating this "off the top of my head" as I went along. I decided to take a couple of chances and just found that if you boot FLEX and hit reset when it asks for the date, it doesn't overwrite memory with a test pattern. You then go to

warmstart \$CD03 for FLEX9, and use the SAVETXT utility, a listing of which is here. Since I didn't have SAVETXT in usable form, I did the next best thing and used SAVE. I first used the monitor to find the limits of the text file I had in memory. My text, having used PIE started at \$4800, and ran almost to \$72FF. After using SAVE, it is necessary to edit the file and delete all the control characters inserted when saving a binary file. With PIE it is not too much of a job since all control characters in the file are indicated by . in the text, and just deleting the extraneous characters restores the file to its good state. However, a SAVETXT utility will be much better.

I've found my 6800 program, which was written by my friend Paul Patrick, and modified it for 6809 and FLEX9 use. As a matter of general interest, the 6800 version was \$117 bytes long, and the converted program is \$105 bytes. I'm sure a more efficient 6809 version could be written. This was a simple translation. The byte savings were in using Y as the pointer to memory, thus avoiding much loading and saving of X as is necessary in the 6800 version.

Remember, if you get stuck as I did, boot FLEX9. Don't answer the date prompt, but hit reset instead, then find the memory limits for the save, and jump to flex WARMS via @P CD03 G. All that remains is to use SAVETXT just as you would use SAVE for a binary file. You will find that your editor's text buffer always starts at the same address, so you will soon know what the starting address is. Then, just look through memory until you find the last part of the text you are trying to recover from memory, and you are all set.

While I am at it, I will include a FLEX2 version of the utility here. All the discussion above will apply to FLEX2 and the 6800 as well. With a few equate changes, the 6800 version will also run in MinifLEX.

ASSEMBLER PROBLEM

In the May issue I posed a problem regarding an assembler program. The listing appeared in the June issue. Several readers have sent me listings produced by their assemblers that have the error marked and labeled "UNRESOLVED IN PASS 1". It appears that I don't have the latest version of either assembler (6800 or 6809). The problem, if you hadn't figured it out, was one of "multiple forward references". ORG PART2 is a forward reference. The assembler doesn't find the label PART2 until the very end of the first pass. It can't therefore handle the forward branch in the instruction BRA LABEL8, and the FDB LABEL8. It would require three passes in order to resolve these forward references, (i.e. two to resolve the symbol addresses and the usual "second pass" to generate the code). Apparently the fact that the assembler didn't detect such errors was fixed in a later version than mine. Thanks to all those who were interested enough to send me listings generated by their assemblers.

```

3      OPT   NOG,PAG
100  ILLEGAL OPTION
5
6
7
8      THIS PROGRAM WILL ALLOW SAVING OF A TEXT FILE FROM THE CONTENTS OF MEMORY
9      IT IS POSSIBLE TO COPY MEMORY WITH ANY OF THE AVAILABLE DUMP
10     UTILITIES TO FIND THE LIMITS OF THE TEXT TO BE SAVED
11
12     SYNTAX: SAVETXT,FILENAME,STARTADDRESS,ENDADDRESS
13
14     THE EXTENSION WILL DEFAULT TO .TXT AND THE DRIVE TO WORKING
15
16     ORIGINAL FOR 6800
17     BY PAUL PATRICK
18     YPSILANTI MICHIGAN
19
20     COMMENTED FOR 6809
21     BY BOB ANDERSON
22     ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN
23
24     6840 1CB   EDU   6840   SYSTEM FILE CONTROL BLOCK

```

```

25      0005 0000 EQU 00005 00000001
26      0015 0000 EQU 00015 00000001
27      0016 0000 EQU 00016 00000001
28      0020 0000 EQU 00020 00000001
29      0020 0000 EQU 00020 00000001
30      0023 0000 EQU 00023 00000001
31      0023 0000 EQU 00023 00000001
32      0042 0000 EQU 00042 00000001
33
34
35      0005 0000 EQU 00005 00000001
36      0006 0000 EQU 00006 00000001
37
38
39      0100 0000 EQU 00100 00000001
40
41      0100 20 10 SAVE 0001 SAVE2
42      0102 01 10 FC0 1
43      0103 0000 2 UTILITY VERSION NUMBER
44      0105 0000 2 BEGINNING ADDRESS FOR SAVE
45      0107 0000 2 ENDING ADDRESS FOR SAVE
46
47      0100 0000 2 CURRENT ADDRESS USED TO TEST FOR VALID ADDRESS
48
49      0109 00 0100 00001
50      010C 00 010E 00001
51      010F 00 0003 00001
52
53      0101 0000 00001
54
55      0112 00 0000 00001
56      0115 00 0002 00001
57      0110 00 0000 00001
58      0110 30 0000 00001
59
60      0110 0000 00001
61
62      0110 00 0000 00001
63      0110 00 0000 00001
64      0121 24 07 0000 00001
65      0123 06 15 0000 00001
66      0125 07 01 0000 00001
67      0127 0E 0100 00001
68
69      0120 00 0000 00001
70      0120 00 00 0000 00001
71      0125 00 0003 00001
72      0127 00 00 0000 00001
73      0128 23 03 0000 00001
74      0120 00 0003 00001
75      0120 00 07 0000 00001
76      0120 23 00 0000 00001
77      0120 00 0007 00001
78      0100 30 01 0000 00001
79      0102 00 0005 00001
80      0105 00 0007 00001
81      0100 00 0000 00001
82      0100 00 0000 00001
83      0100 00 0000 00001
84      0100 00 0000 00001
85      0101 25 00 0000 00001
86
87      0103 00 0000 00001
88      0100 00 00 0000 00001
89      0100 00 0000 00001
90      0100 00 0000 00001
91
92      0100 00 0000 00001
93      0102 00 00 0000 00001
94      0100 00 00 0000 00001
95      0100 00 00 0000 00001
96      0100 00 00 0000 00001
97      0100 00 00 0000 00001
98      0100 00 00 0000 00001
99      0100 00 00 0000 00001
100      0100 00 0007 00001
101      0100 00 0000 00001
102      0100 00 0000 00001
103      0100 00 0000 00001
104      0100 00 0007 00001
105      0100 00 0000 00001
106      0100 00 0000 00001
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108      0100 00 0000 00001
109      0100 00 00 0000 00001
110      0100 00 00 0000 00001
111      0100 00 0000 00001
112      0100 00 00 0000 00001
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114      0100 00 00 0000 00001
115      0100 00 00 0000 00001
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117      0100 00 0000 00001
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119      0100 00 0000 00001
120      0100 00 0000 00001
121      0100 00 0000 00001
122
123      0100 00 0000 00001
124
125      0100 00 0000 00001
126      0100 00 00 0000 00001
127      0100 00 00 0000 00001

```

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128
129      0100 00 0000 00001
130      0100 00 00 0000 00001
131      0100 00 00 0000 00001
132
133      0100 00 0000 00001
134      0100 00 00 0000 00001
135      0100 00 00 0000 00001
136      0100 00 0000 00001
137      0100 00 00 0000 00001
138      0100 00 00 0000 00001
139      0100 00 00 0000 00001
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192      0100 00 00 0000 00001
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194      0100 00 00 0000 00001
195      0100 00 00 0000 00001
196      0100 00 00 0000 00001
197      0100 00 00 0000 00001
198      0100 00 00 0000 00001
199      0100 00 00 0000 00001
200      0100 00 00 0000 00001

```

REMARKS

Well, we are about over moving day now, actually moving two weeks or so.

Computer Publishing Incorporated (CPI), parent company of 68 Micro Journal, Data-Comp Division and S.E. Media Supply has grown at a steady rate, over the past three years. We started out in the offices with Hamilton Publishing Inc. and later moved our office staff to the Hamill Road address in Hixson, Tennessee, where we have operated from for the past 2 and a half years. But our 'wall expander' could budge no more, so we moved into our new building known as 'Computer Publishing Center'. Computer Publishing Center is now home for all the family operations of CPI. Everything that is but a portion of the 68 Micro Journal editorial offices.

My personal office is still located at the old Hamill Road address in Hixson, Tennessee. Just couldn't bear to leave the horses, dogs, cats and my favorite fishing hole on the creek. Only about a mile and a half from the new offices so things worked out ok. By the time this is out we should have our new telephone system completed and will be able to keep in touch should any call.

Please use our new address shown below in all future correspondence as the post office is already having some slight difficulty getting our mail forwarded in a timely manner.

Computer Publishing Center
5900 Cassandra Smith Road
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Last month I published our annual survey, for the first time. And I want to say that the response has been far more than I ever anticipated. Some very interesting data and view-points have emerged from this response of many hundreds of 68 Micro Journal readers. What is even more interesting is that some are not even subscribers and DO NOT own 68XX systems. Their input was in most all cases (about 27) reasons why they had opted not to go the 68XX route. In practically every case it was due to some dissatisfied 68XX user 'bad mouthing' the 68XX systems, or so they report. Twenty seven is not a very large number but it should not have happened. That they would even take the time to respond (they have no subscription to extend) is surprising. It behooves all of us, manufacturers and end users alike, to have a better understanding of each others problems and gripes. As users we have a relatively large investment, we would like to have better and less expensive accessories and software for our systems. Also we would like more 'quality control', a lot more! This was one of the most, if not the most stressed remark in the entire survey. As retailers and manufacturers some of us need to 'get our act straight'. This includes our sister organizations, Data-Comp and S.E. Media Supply. There is some mighty potent competition knocking on the door and the 'old days' are about gone. There is no doubt that we (Standard S50 Bus users) have one of, if not the finest small computer (and some not so small) systems available today. But now is not the time for sitting and beaming, rather it is a time to look about and decide what we can do to make our lot better, and help assure our survival.

One other thing that catches my attention as I review the surveys as they come in is that a very high percentage are well satisfied with their systems. Not that they do not have complaints and gripes, but they know that the outsiders have had probably more problems than we have. All in all we have had the best of it, despite a few bad apples and a lot of growing pains Standard S50 Bus Industry wise.

As soon as we can get the data all sorted out I will be reporting to you on some portions of this survey. So far, including data we had previously, we have over 2,000 survey inputs, that are fairly recent. From this amount of data some fairly accurate conclusions can be made.

Also I have been receiving a large amount of mail from those who either want to do reviews for the TRS-80 Color Computer (6809) or would like to be placed on a list of available hard/software programmers and designers. I will attempt to keep this list as current as possible. The response to both of these was so great that I will not be able to reply to each and everyone. But if anything comes up, that you might slot into, you will be hearing from someone. Meanwhile I want to thank all who responded, even tho I doubt that I can ever use all that volunteered for reviews.

DMW - - -

COLOR USER NOTES

* * COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes * *

by Robert L. Nay
Rt 7 Box 298A, Gadsden, AL 35903

INTRODUCTION:

Many of you have noticed the "Development" of a magazine, especially a specific coverage "read" like '68' MICRO JOURNAL. It begins by filling a need - i.e., in this case, coverage of the 68XX world. It starts with a group of people with a special interest and desire, and grows and develops with the people who are the prime contributors and supporters. '68' MICRO JOURNAL has done an excellent job of tying the 68XX users together, and the contributors and supporters are to be commended. A simple but comprehensive Basic Bytes has evolved with a standardization and flexibility that is the envy of the competition. And it works and works! This has resulted in the extremely rapid development of powerful and flexible Operating Systems with a high degree of compatibility and utilization of the most powerful 8-bit CPU chip available. To the newcomer to the 68XX scene, it may seem that the primary following of '68' MICRO is working on a Multi-K system with disks stacked everywhere, at Multi-Meg speeds. Consequently, every conceivable, a small QUESTION MARK comes floating up out of all the DOUBLE SIDE/TRACK/DENSITY, MULTIBUS, PIPELINE, DDB, DMA, etc., in the hope it can find a small crack to hang onto and pull itself up to a level that it can at least get a glimpse of something understandable and usable.

Then, finally, a crack appears. A POWERFUL marketing system throws a little tidbit to the hungry questioner: the RADIO SHACK COLOR COMPUTER. It often seems that many an engineering manhour went into making it as secret and non-standard as the eightiest brains could dream up yet, it's got almost as much latent power per dollar invested as an Atolc Boob. It's being bought by the thousands: as a toy for grandchildren as a tool to try to teach logical thinking and processes to school children as an interesting little computer to play with by the pros and, MOST IMPORTANTLY, by the Multitude who want to learn what makes a computer tick and how to use one. I would venture to guess that the great majority of this last group of purchasers are young, venturesome, quaking, determined, and, necessarily, BROKE. The COLOR COMPUTER is a pathway into the "Land Of The Computers", and the price of admission isn't bad. The COLOR COMPUTER purchasers have rapidly gone through the SHACK's "easier" information, broken the cartridges' secret "theft of the computer", found it to be extremely easy to DOUBLE the maximum memory Tandy had provided (at ANY cost), and is asking inroads into breaking the "CLASSIFIED-HIGHEST POSSIBLE TOP SECRET" BASIC ROM code.

GENERAL:

This all leads up to the "COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes". Every issue of '68' MICRO JOURNAL has at least one, and usually several, cries for information on a less sophisticated system. I AM NOT IN ANY WAY insinuating that '68' MICRO JOURNAL becks off of the level of the information it is presenting. It is a fantastic publication. Personally, I've found it takes me longer to read an issue of the '68' MICRO JOURNAL than any of the much larger publications; this little gem is CRAMPED with information. I'm suggesting, especially to you "pros", that we include "us" "not-so-hep, struggling to get there too" folks in this publication also. The present "battleground" seems to be in the areas of Sorting and Programming Methods; how about some discussions on File Handling Techniques, Look-up Tables, Linking methods, etc., etc. Remember, a lot of the new '68' MICRO JOURNAL readers haven't "been there" yet, so how about passing on what you see to be a simple or basic bit of information; there will be easy that will learn from it. Send it to me, to Don, to the Bit Bucket, but SEND IT!

We'll be looking at and discussing ANYTHING that pertains to the COLOR COMPUTER in this column. The machine was designed to be an inexpensive system with a good TV graphics capability, and that it is. Its strong points are the price (since it hooks directly to a TV, a Monitor does not have to be purchased) an outstanding version of BASIC that was fine tuned for TV graphic display and audio output (it "Benchmarks" right up with the 4MHz '80' systems on an interpretive operating system even though the COLOR COMPUTER clock runs at less than 0.9MHz - re Aug 81 "Interface Age" p86); and it uses the 6809E chip. The electronics consist of 4 different 40 pin LSIs, the Power Supply, and a few odd chips. Weak areas are primarily the results of holding the price down and making the system so specialized. The keyboard is a plastic "calculator type" switching system which is prone to result in sticky key buttons (read on! I'll give you a FIX for that shortly), but does have good "feel" once you get used to it and the actual switches should be trouble-free and are easy to clean should the need arise. The Keyboard Output gives you very little in the way of non-alphanumeric codes for controlling a Printer and the RS-232 "SERIAL I/O" pin connections are a typical Radio Shack fouled-up mess (also some solutions to follow). The BASIC being in ROM is "safe" in that programming errors won't wipe it out, but they tie up a lot of real estate, restricting you to a maximum of 48K useable memory until we get it out on Disk or Cassette (I've already run out of my 32K a couple of times). In general, it's a good system with fantastic potential, and we do have some excellent software and hardware becoming available for it (also MORE info shortly). Finally, the physical design and construction of the electronics sure aren't up to very high standards. I have already repaired five bad solder joints in my set, so if you aren't "hep" on electronic repairs, don't void your 90 day warranty. It seems that about 75% of the COLOR COMPUTERS are going to need some work: stay close to your Salesman because my experience with two different Radio Shack Computer SERVICE CENTERS has been BAD! Your Salesman can help get a problem solved, where I've found the Service Center personnel to have a "I could care less" attitude. Conversely, I've found the MOTOROLA people to be EXTREMELY HELPFUL and interested in any problem you may have with a specific chip.

COLOR COMPUTER:

First, let's look at a few things that will greatly improve your chances of having a trouble-free COLOR COMPUTER. The biggest problem that normally shows up is heat. The Power Supply generates quite a bit of heat, and the 6803 SAM also runs hot. On my unit, the Cassette operation became unreliable after a couple hours computer time. The 6821 PIA's then became inoperative, causing both "Load" and "Save" problems. The solution is two-fold: first, make sure air can flow freely through the chassis and second, read and accomplish the procedures outlined by Bob Marjesson in the May 81 issue of '68' MICRO JOURNAL beginning on page 39. In addition to ventilating the Power Transformer mounting area and painting the RF Shield cover black, I also drilled a BNC-style hole in the shield and installed an IC heat sink on the 6803. I have not had a problem since I accomplished those changes. Next time, I have heard of some problems with the 32K "piggy-back" and (it has been written up several times as Bob did, and normally it works OK). If the 4116 memory chips are good, etc., then the problem is probably "ringing" on the chip select pins. This can be a real puzzle, and normally shows up with the faster 4116's. What is causing the problem is the exceptional speed of the 6803 SAM chip! It is not a MOS device. The solution is to replace the plain wire lead going from the 4116 pin 4's (chip select) with a 33 ohm resistor! This will provide enough damping to eliminate the problem. The Printed Circuit board on the PC Board has enough inductance to prevent the problem on the first 16K chips, the resistor takes care of the second set. Next, the "stickey keys". This drives me up a tree for a while. I tried several things which either didn't work or created a real mess. Finally, the light dawned - POWDERED GRAPHITE. Dust around the keys - pour it on good - and run your hand up and down the keyboard, working it between them like you've seen "kids" run their hand up a piano keyboard. After it's worked in good, and the edges of the key buttons look like they have been rubbed with a pencil, take a relatively soft brush and sweep the excess off. I haven't had a problem since I did this, and I sure have used it hard and heavy since. Finally, be extremely careful when plugging Cartridges in and out. In fact, DON'T do it with power on the computer. That's the SAFE way. You can blow the 6809E CPU and/or the 6803 SAM chips if you're lucky! I'm bad, so why risk it. I know, you see kids yanking them out and stuffing them in in the store, and things work fine. If you look close at the Board Edge in the Radio Shack Cartridges, you will notice that one PC lead does not come all the way out to the edge. That is the +5 Volt lead, and it insures that all other connections are made before Power is applied to the Cartridge if the Computer is turned on (score one for TANDY!). BUT, why take the chance? Also, most of the other Cartridges available for the COLOR COMPUTER do NOT have that lead shortened! If you get used to inserting and removing the RS Cartridges with power on, you may forget when you use a different unit. As Ron Anderson so aptly put it in his Aug column, the probability of your missing out a chip is so near a sure thing that there is little use in trying to calculate it. TURN THE MACHINE OFF for inserting or removing Cartridges, and you won't have a problem.

REVIEWS:

DATASOFT, INC.
16686 Schoenborn Street, Sepulveda, Ca. 91343

S.E.C.S. (Screen Edit Control System) Cassette Tape: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: 4K to use the EDITOR! 16K for the Character Generator and Hi-Resolution Graphics. Extended Basic NOT required.

FEATURES: 4K system - the EDITOR portion of the Program is the only part of the Program that is useable on a 4K COLOR COMPUTER. The EDITOR provides the capability of Editing Basic Statements thru the insertion or deletion of characters without having to re-type the whole Statement. The Program is loaded by entering CLOADM"SECS" and then EXEC <ENTER>, and displays a backward slash with a black flashing cursor. You then operate as though the program was not loaded in the computer except for the Editing capability (i.e., all normal commands and functions are entered and used just as if S.E.C.S. was not loaded in the Computer). This portion of the program works good and no problems were noted.

16K system - The extra memory allows the use of the Hi-Res portions of this Program (the Hi-Res portions allocate and use either 3K or 6K video screens the same as Extended Basic). This Program is loaded with CLOADM "GO-SECS" and then EXEC <ENTER>. This loads the Editor and the Hi-Res capabilities (and also DISABLES EXTENDED BASIC if it is installed). The Hi-Res Graphics provides various screen Color, Dot, and Line functions equivalent to Ext. Basic's PHODE 1 (SECS's CLS SET=1) and PHODE 2 (SECS's CLS SET=2). One interesting feature of SECS is that while in the CLS H mode, you do not have the keyboard display on the screen, but you DO have keyboard control (i.e., CLS H,3 provides a red screen, then if you enter SET (15,10,1), a yellow dot appears at location 5,10. In addition, since you could not see an error message - remember, no keyboard display, you're working blind - an audio warning is provided to indicate an error). You may want a note pad handy when working this mode.

The Character Generator is a BASIC Program loaded with CLOADM "POG-EDIT" and then RUN. This brings up a "menu" consisting of 10 single-key commands yielding tape controls, screen, color, and resolution control, and the "E" for end of program. These commands are functional AFTER the Character Generator Display is up. <ENTER> brings it up from the menu. This was one place we ran into a problem. ENTER was hit while the Char. Gen. Display was being produced - it wiped out the whole program. We had to shut the Computer down to clear memory and reload the program; we were unable to get back from RESET or to reload and reEXECUTE until a complete Power-On RESET was accomplished. (We also did it two more times with the same results to make sure it wasn't a fluke - be careful which keys you hit when in the Char. Gen. mode! This mode presents 64 characters and allows you to change them to develop your own characters, and store them on tape for use later.

DOCUMENTATION: The instructions with this program leave a lot to be found out the hard way - it took us over a half hour to get the Program up and running. We read thru the instructions and started at the beginning by loading the 4K editor to check it out with the CLOADM "SECS" and EXEC routine. It looked OK, so on to the Hi-Res Graphics! so we thought. Again, the "can't get there from here" problem we mentioned with the char. gen. If you have loaded and EXECuted "SECS", there is no way to get BASIC's EXEC Pointer back, we had to shut down and come back from a Power-On start to be able to get CLOADM"GO-SECS" to EXEC. (We also verified this a couple times, and with both copies of the program on the tapes once the EXEC Pointer is used, even the tape program does not reset it.) This would normally not be a problem because you will normally

only use the Program that applies to your system - my point is that proper documentation could have prevented the problem. Also, if you had WANTED the 16K version of the program to start with (GO-SECS), you would still have run into this problem because the instructions do not specifically identify a loading procedure for each one, nor are they very specific about which does what (we assumed the EDITOR must do something besides insert and delete characters, which is the only thing the instructions discuss, and since there was no mention of getting back and forth between BASIC and the EDITOR, AND since we were already familiar with the EXEC problem, we started trying different things and found out that you have normal BASIC operation and functions while in the EDITOR mode). Since this Program is obviously intended for the new Computer users with a basic system, the Documentation should be very complete, and provide a guide to help new operators get it "up and running" with NO problems. (On the same subject, while the EXEC Pointer problem will not really be a problem with this program, it is a weak point which should not be there. The Char. Gen. wipe-out problem IS a problem, and hopefully, steps will be taken to eliminate it.)

SUMMARY: This can be a good program for those systems without EXTENDED BASIC by providing a simple but needed EDITOR and an introduction to High Resolution Graphics if the documentation is aimed at that user and if a few minor "bugs" will be cured. S.E.C.S. does perform the functions you see advertised for it and could be a good program for the COLOR COMPUTER user.

DATASOFT, INC.
16686 Schoenborn Street, Sepulveda, Ca. 91343

BIGNON (Mach. Lang. Monitor, Debugger, and Mini-assembler) Cassette Tape: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: 16K Memory; does NOT require or use EXTENDED BASIC.

FEATURES: "BIGNON" is a powerful and versatile Machine Language Monitor, Debugger, and Mini-assembler, which gives you access to the machine language capabilities of your TANDY COLOR COMPUTER (TRISC). This quote is the first statement in the instruction manual, and precisely summarizes the Program. I have found it to be excellent and extremely useful, and it provides features I have not found in other programs of this type for the Color Comp.

The BIGNON Commands and their function are as follows (Note: parameters enclosed in these brackets <> are optional in the Command Line.)

MODE <H> -> "MODE" is the default command and requires all Hexadecimal Entries to be preceded by the dollar sign (\$OFF, \$A1C1). "MODE H" causes BIGNON to expect ALL numeric entries to be Hex. PRT/NOPT -> "PRT" links the Printer to the Screen Display (i.e., anything seen on the screen is printed); NOPT turns it off. DUMP/DUMPS <start address>,<end address> -> These Commands dump the current address in the left column, followed by 8 Hex bytes (ALL numeric outputs of BIGNON are Hexadecimal); then, right below these bytes, the corresponding ASCII code if below 655, or a period if DUMP or a Graphic Block if DUMPS if over 655. It then proceeds with the next 8 bytes, etc. LIST <start address>,<end address> -> This Command produces a 25 byte row preceded by the address. The output is ASCII/Gr. Block. DIS <start address>,<end address> -> This is the Disassemble Command. It is basically a single line disassembler into labels, symbol tables, X-reference tables, etc.) with the output in the Address, Opcode, Operand, and Mnemonic field format, followed by the actual address referenced by the Opcode Offset for that program's present position. Relative addressing would be shown as 3000 A4 BC0D LDA 3010,PC to indicate relative to the PC. FIND <start address>,<end address>,<data> -> This lets you find almost any single or combination of values, including Mnemonic code and displays the address or addresses at which it was found. ASM <start address> -> This is the Mini-assembler Command. It provides the capability of entering numeric or character values directly into memory, and operates as a single-line assembler when entering Mnemonics. MOVE <start address>,<end address>,<target address> -> This provides the standard "move a block of memory from here to there" Command. STEP <start address> -> This command is the Master Tracer routine. It displays the current register contents and then the next line in Disassembled format. Pressing the Spacebar or any key then lists the registers from that statement and presents the next one. This continues until you either exit the mode with <ENTER> or get a "ROM: 00?" message, where a "N" will proceed into the ROM and probably dump you back into BASIC, or an <ENTER> or "N" exits the mode. BREAK <addr1>,<addr2>,<addr3>...<addr9> -> This allows the insertion of up to 9 breakpoint(s) in RAM when running a program. These cause an SWI to be inserted, and when encountered, the registers are displayed and the code which the breakpoint replaced is reinserted in the program. There are provisions for killing all breakpoints, any one, or displaying the current ones. SET <reg-val> -> "SET <ENTER>" displays the current registers; "SET C=98" would load the Cond. Code Register with Hex 98. All registers except the "B" can be assigned values. GO <address> -> This transfers program control to the address specified to "RUN" a Machine Language program. SPEED <value> -> This sets the video scrolling rate; value is 0-255. EXIT -> Returns you to BASIC. WRITE <"filename">,<start address>,<end address>,<entry point> -> This produces a standard Mach. Lang. tape which can be read with either CLOADM or back into BIGNON. READ -> This Command reads a Mach. Lang. tape into BIGNON. PLOAD -> This function allows BIGNON to read a data file entered from the Serial Port at 600 Baud. The Data File format is specified in the instructions.

GENERAL COMMENTS: BIGNON is a relocatable machine language program which normally occupies memory locations \$8FF2-\$2762. It is an easy-to-use, forgiving program, quickly putting the user at ease with it. The DUMP, LIST, and DIS commands allow the analysis of small to large programs, but the system is more suited to shorter programs. The Disassembler can not interpret ASCII characters in code, but the DUMP or LIST commands point these areas of a program out, and the "junk" output from it in these areas can be ignored. Since it is basically a single line disassembler, it is not easily confused, and you will seldom need to restart it at the end of a String to get it "back in sync". The lack of labels, symbol tables, cross references, etc., is not a hindrance with small programs (or sections of large ones), and the "uncluttered" output is easy to follow. The output of the Disassembler appears

to be standard Motorola syntax, but I have not tried to run it on one of the full Assembler Systems yet. The SIGMON Assembler is as easy to use as the rest of the programs, and follows the standard Motorola syntax except the "Auto Decrement" Mnemonics, where the minus sign must follow the register when using SIGMON, instead of preceding them. The SIGMON Monitor, Disassembler, and Assembler are very convenient to use for studying and inserting small changes to operational programs - you can easily change branch addresses, for example, to allow inserting a different capability into a program. For example, the following entries change the STEP Printer output to a single line listing of the registers if you have an 80 col. Printer, but do not affect the video output (it also extends the programs memory use to 62812):

Assembler Input: DIB output after transferring the program to 94FF2 to check Relocatability:

```
>>ASM 92386
2386= 6SR 927F8
2389= <ENTER> to exit, 92389 left unchanged

>>ASM 927F8
27F8= TBT 927F8,PC
27FC= 8EO 9253A
2800= PSHS A
2802= LDA 9228
2804= 6SR 92518
2807= CLR 927F8,PC
2809= 6SR 9253A
280E= 6SR 921E3
2811= PULS A,PC
2813= <again>, <ENTER> to exit the mode)

>>DIB 947F8 96812
947F8 6D 8DFF23 TBT 927F8,PC
947FC 1827 FD5A LBD 653A
94800 34 02 PSHS A
94802 84 28 LDA 928
94804 17 FD09 LBR 6518
94807 6F 0DFF14 CLR 927F8,PC
94809 17 FD4C LBR 653A
9480E 17 F9D4 LBR 61E3
94811 33 B2 PULS PC,A
```

DOCUMENTATION: The Documentation that comes with SIGMON is excellent. Provided are two booklets: an Instruction Manual and a "highlight commented" Source Code booklet. The major portions of the program consist of the Command Parser, Disassembler, Step Processor, Single Line Assembler, standard Monitor Command section, and the I/O package section. The Instruction Manual sets you know right off the bat just what you have, a discussion of the TRS80 tape buffer area, how to load the tape, and the programs use in conjunction with BASIC and the UBR statement. There is very little confusion about what you have or how to use it, and NONE about how to get "up and running". I would suggest a note on a recommended book for use with the Assembler file, what is the "standard Motorola syntax", for those just beginning to get into Machine Language programming - and this program is one of the best I have seen for starting out, but in general, the Documentation is outstanding.

SUMMARY: This is an outstanding offering for use on the COLOR COMPUTER. The price is very reasonable, and both beginners and pros alike will find it to be a valuable addition to their software library. As previously stated, it is easy to use for those just beginning to delve into Machine Language Programming, and is really nice for those "small changes" to programs, or for whipping out a simple program without having to figure branches and offsets manually. **OUTSTANDING PROGRAM!!**

QUICK LOOKS:

This section of the "COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes" will be devoted to presenting an initial look at new products that have come in for review. We will then provide some coverage of many of the products in a later "Users Notes" column (increasingly the next issue). It is felt that this format will help both the prospective purchaser and the manufacturer by providing an objective view of the product in a timely fashion, and still provide us with the time to use it enough to be able to present a good review as soon as possible. Many new products are becoming available for this system, and our primary concern is to get the information out to you quickly. Drop us a note and let us know your opinion on this procedure, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

The MICRO WORKS
P.O. Box 1118 Del Mar, Ca. 92014

CSUG MONITOR (available either on TAPE or in a ROM)

CSUG is an approximately 2K monitor which is entirely relocatable. Instructions are provided for installing the ROM version in a Tandy Diagnostics Pak (and I will show how to make it switch selectable to allow use of either the Diagnostics or CSUG next month). CSUG provides Register display, memory exam/change, Insert, Transfer blocks of mem, JSR, Change reg., Save to Cassette, Set baud rate, Load hex to mem, Upload and Download, setting break points, hex to decimal & vice versa, a couple of terminal modes, and an interesting "Move display page" functions. All this is normally accomplished with single-key commands. The Instructions provide a commented Source Listing and some good info on Hi-Res Graphics on the COLOR COMPUTER. It is an excellent program - I have it on ROM in the Diagnostics Pak and just leave it plugged in almost all the time; it's a handy item to have "on board".

BBC DISASSEMBLER (on TAPE)

The BBC DISASSEMBLER is a full-function disassembler which allows specifying different area types at the discovered locations and provides a different output formats. It is a 2-pass disassembler which identifies labels and provides full symbol and cross reference tables. The output can be directed to either the screen or to a Printer. One of the output options provides a standard Source Code format, which can be edited as required and run on a standard Assembler. It was designed primarily to disassemble the BASIC ROM's in the COLOR COMPUTER, and the Instructions give a Memory Map of Computer and some interesting Addresses in the BASIC ROM. A note on interfacing a printer to the COLOR COMPUTER is also included. Finally, a fully commented Source Listing is provided. As to be expected from The MICRO WORKS, this is another excellent piece of software.

SDS BBC (Software Development System)

The SDS BBC is a Cartridge which plugs in the Cartridge slot on the COLOR COMPUTER. It contains three separate programs: an Editor, an Assembler, and a Monitor. (The Monitor is a special version of the CSUG mentioned previously, called ABUS.) The Editor comes up first, and is used for entering source code and editing code entered from the keyboard or mass storage. Typing the at symbol (@) gets from the Edit mode to the Assembler mode; when called, several options can be chosen from developing symbol tables to generate code to memory, tape, and/or printer. The SDS BBC supports all standard instructions, address modes, and mnemonics and in addition, it features support of local labels, conditional assembly, 68000 instruc-

tions for cross-assembly, and control of the output listing. Pseudo Op codes supported include the conditional assembly codes of IFxx, ELSE, EIF (End IF); the standards like BSZ, END, EQU, FCB, FCC, FDB, NAM, ORG, and RMB; the SETOP to inform the assembler that DP has been set; OPT, PAGE, and TTL for compatibility with other Assemblers; and NLST/LIST for listing control. BBC leaves a blank line to provide program readability and to delimit Local Variables. You are automatically transferred to the ABUS Monitor after an Assembly run. This monitor provides single-key commands including the normal Go, memory exam/change, Register list/change, Transfer blocks of memory, Jump to subroutine, and Save/Load cassette. It also supports a command to Evaluate expressions (? NERF - prints the value of NERF; ? 1234567890 - a hex calculator, etc.), and a command to Unstack, or remove the symbol table to free memory space. The @ symbol returns you to the Editor from the Monitor, and the ~ gets you from the Assembler back to the Editor. The Instruction Manual provided does not provide the commented Source Listing you are used to seeing from the MICRO WORKS, but this is by far the best manual they have produced in the COLOR COMPUTER software line. Besides the discussions of the three programs' use, there is a summary of the 6800 Assembly Language and Appendices on Memory Full Conditions, ROM Entry Points, Timing Loops, Interfacing a Printer, Use with the Disassembler, and ABC's and Screen Codes. The 6800 Assembly Language section also discusses Position Independent Code (PIC) and 68000 Cross-assembly and it's potential problems.

INTERFACING the COLOR COMPUTER with a PRINTER:

The SERIAL I/O connector on the back of the COLOR COMPUTER is the only link with a Printer that Radio Shack has provided so far. Their Literature has provided more confusion than good information! It looks like Microsoft (which wrote the BASIC and Control Systems) and Tandy were on different wave lengths as far as the Serial Output port is concerned.

The Serial Data out of this port is formatted as 1 start bit (always low), 7 data bits, and 2 stop bits (always high) with no parity. This works all right if the only thing you want out of this port is ASCII characters, but it imposes some restrictions if you want to use some of the newer printers with the COLOR COMPUTER, as the Graphics Blocks and some of the Control Codes need the 8th bit. Tandy has finally realized this, and now provides a free (yep, FREE!) Cassette Tapes routine which loads in high RAM (to the extent it doesn't read the amount of memory and adjust it's location, and it is not relocatable, so it will have to be adjusted to get it out of the way on the 32K and over systems - we'll look at this next month) called PTXFX. It is Catalog Number 789-2813, and one side (PTXFX4K) loads into a 4K machine, and the other side of the tape (PTXFX16) loads into the 16K machines. This provides the 8 bit output for Graphics Blocks, etc. By the way, the APPLE II only puts out 7 bits also, and it has some of the Control Codes trapped so that a few of the Printer software Controls are real hard to use. Tandy's normal attitude of "we're the greatest, let the world conform to us" got bent a little bit when they began selling the Line Printer VII, which needs the 8th bit. Just like Epson's MX series, so they provided us with it (I would guess this also means that the rest of the world can now produce Printers using 8 bit inputs).

OK, we have the data going out to the Printer! It leaves the Computer Serial I/O port on pin 4 of the 4-pin DIN connector in the Computer. This is labeled "TD", or Transmit Data, in the TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER OPERATION MANUAL supplied with the Computer, and is correctly labeled. This output will go to the "RD", or Receive Data, pin on Printer connector, which will be pin 3 of the standard RS-232C 25 pin connector found on almost any Printer with a Serial input. Pin 3 on the Computer is labeled GROUND, which is what it really is. (Now, two for two right, so far. I This will go to the Printer's GROUND (sometimes called CHASSIS or SIGNAL GROUND, also - in most cases they are the same thing!) this will be pin 1 on the standard 25 pin connector. So far, we have info going from the computer to the printer, and the grounds tied together (so that +5 Volts at the computer will be +5 Volts at the printer too!) now the fun starts. The Computer must be able to tell when the Printer is "Busy", and doesn't have time to "Receive Data" right now; this is accomplished by hooking the "busy" line (also called "busy out" or "status out" in some units) from the Printer to the "Status In" or "Carrier Detect" line on the Computer. But, IT WILL NOT WORK on the COLOR COMPUTER. The "CD" line, pin 1 on the COL. COMP., is not monitored by the BASIC Operating System's printer Character Output routine; pin 2, labeled "RD" (Receive Data) is the input that is monitored to check for "Printer Busy". This means that the "busy" signal out of the Printer (pin 28 on a standard 25 pin RS-232C connector) must be hooked to pin 2 of the COLOR COMPUTER's Serial I/O connector. Also, pin 2 on the Computer must be high to allow it to send data to the printer, or "enable the output". Most Printers have several switches which allow the selection of various options, and the choice of "busy" high or low to enable the Computers output will be one of these. While I think of it, another term used with printers for "busy" is "Printer Buffer Full" or "Printer Buffer NOT Full". As you can see, this can also get confusing! What the Computer must see is a HIGH signal on pin 2 before it will send data to the Printer - that's about as "unconfused" as I can think of to put it! So, what we end up with, if all this discussion hasn't clouded things even more, is:

COLOR COMPUTER	PRINTER
pin 1 -----	no connection
pin 2 -----	pin 28 = BUSY (standard RS-232C conn)
pin 3 -----	pin 7 = GROUND
pin 4 -----	pin 3 = REC DATA

Now that we are able to communicate with a printer, what is the COLOR COMPUTER capable of saying?? Well, in "speaks-da-English", it does OK! but in "speaks-da-PRINTER", it don't do so good. It was designed to do all kinds of fancy things, in COLOR even, on a TV Screen; that it does GREAT. But it lacks a few non-English, non-TV Screen keys on the keyboard to allow talking fluent PRINTER. Far and away the greatest shortcoming is the lack of an "escape" key which generates a Hex Code "18" when pressed. The second major shortcoming is the lack of a "Control" key. Working around the Control key isn't too bad, as it's a major area of usage in in Software situations, and the software can be written to define an available key to handle this function) but the Escape key is another problem. The majority of versatile printer's commands are preceded by the Escape key; since it has no ASCII alphanumeric character, it is invisible for printer OUTPUT, and therefore is used to alert the printer to the fact that the character immediately following it is not to be printed, but is to be used as a command telling it to change line spacing, character type, etc. With the MX-80, almost half of the commands use the Escape key, and 36 of the 52 commands used in the new GRAFTRAX 80 Bit-Plot Graphics Printer option require it. Driving a printer from BASIC is no problem as far as the Escape Code is concerned it is CHR\$(27). The CHR\$(xx) expression will output ANY Code with this Computer; the pro-

bles with using BASIC for printing this column, for instance, is that you sure would get tired of typing PRINT#2,"xx something as" for EACH INDIVIDUAL LINE of print you see written here. This problem can also be overcome with properly written software; you have no idea how much I'm looking forward to receiving Nelson Software Systems' SUPER "COLOR" WRITER wordprocessor for this machine (a full report on it will be in this column next month, too). The <CLEAR> key puts out 800, which is the normal Printer Control for For-Feed; I have modified a few of my programs to change a 800 to 810 and use the <CLEAR> key for Escape. The Epson MX-80 has a For-Feed button handy, so I just "do without" using it in the text - it's not optimum, but it does allow much greater control of the Printer within the text. The COLOR COMPUTER does not output a line-feed with the Carriage-Return. This means that the LF must either be generated thru software, or with switch selections in the Printer. Personally, I feel it should be switch selected, and software written with that in mind; otherwise, we will have to change switch selections each time we run a different program, which is not easy on some printers. The MX-80 has several options available in this area, and the new GRAFTRAX 80 option provides a "Home Printer Head" command which simplifies underlining (which doesn't work on mine - it may be inop with the Serial Board). This whole discussion has assumed the use of a printer with a Serial Data Input. I see The MICRO WORKS is advertising an adapter which plugs into the SERIAL I/O port on the COLOR COMPUTER, and gives a Radio Shack compatible edge connector parallel output so you can use a Radio Shack standard cable to plug into the Parallel Data port on a printer; I haven't seen it yet, but with their name on it, I sure wouldn't hesitate to purchase one. There will probably be others out soon; these will at least eliminate the Col. Comp. RD/CD confusion. Finally, some notes on baud rates. The COLOR COMPUTER default baud rate is 600; that is, anytime it goes through the RESET cycle, it sets the Printer baud rate at 600. This is controlled by the value in memory locations 875 and 876 (149 and 150). The baud rate can be set to other values as follows:

```
110 baud = 801F3      POKE 149,1;POKE 150,202
300 baud = 800B4      POKE 149,0;POKE 150,100
400 baud = 80057      POKE 149,0;POKE 150,87
1200 baud = 80079     POKE 149,0;POKE 150,41
2400 baud = 80012     POKE 149,0;POKE 150,10
```

Since the MX-80 does not quite run up to 600 baud, I normally don't worry about setting it any different - with the 2K Buffer Serial Input Board, the computer will be back up before the printer is through printing. The R.S. Quick Printer II that I was running some will not quite take 600 baud; I had to POKE 150,75 to slow the computer output slightly to keep the printer from missing a character now and then. I hope this hasn't been too long-winded and helps some of you get your printers on line and operating like they should. If any of you have solved problems with interfacing specific printers, drop me a line, or better yet, a "bit bucket" letter, and clue us in.

SIGN-OFF:

Next month, we'll be looking at The MICRO WORKS excellent products for the COLOR COMPUTER, SUPER "COLOR" WRITER from Nelson Software Systems, our first look at some of the DISK Systems becoming available, and a whatever else I feel may help you get better use of the COLOR COMPUTER. Once more, drop us a line and let us know what you like and dislike about the column; we'll stumble along blindly until we start getting some feedback from you.

Link Loader /09 Part 2

(The entry point of WRBNRC is after 4 bytes of link area) The load map published will probably have a different value for this entry point than the one on the distribution disk. Also, you will have to remove the CTR 0 definition in the MODULE macro.

Once you assemble each hand-linked module, use the FLEX GET routine to load them into memory. WARNING! You may need to use some value for the link record identifiers other than \$FFFF0-\$FFF3, since GET will wipe out your DAT if you are using SWTPC equipment!

The major reason I am publishing this effort is my firm belief that the 6809 is one of the best micros around. It does suffer from a lack of available software, however, and anything which will allow the needed software to be more easily written will foster greater acceptance of the chip.

Therefore, I am giving RLOAD away, and I plan to do the same thing with other utility software I am currently working on. Anyone who wishes to do so may copy and distribute (with enhancements, I hope!) RLOAD without any royalties. Of course, I would like to be given credit for the original, but I'm not going to invest any effort in trying to enforce that.

For added convenience, I will provide machine-readable source and binary, including this article (formatted for TSC's PR processor), on a 5" single-density FLEX diskette for \$15.00. Additional copies of the floppy in the same order are \$4.00 each. (Limit 10, please) And hardcopy of the entire RLOAD program is \$5.00. Of course, if this copy of '68' is your own, you won't need the printed listings. Please do NOT send diskettes. This price includes the cost of the floppy, postage and packaging, and a little profit. At least, I hope not to LOSE any money, should more than four or five of you actually send for it.

If anyone out there is interested in starting a software exchange library or user's group similar to the excellent CP/M effort, let me know.

Since I am not (yet) really in the software business, updates to RLOAD may be a problem. For instance, I plan to add the SORT routine before I get any orders, but other features may come afterwards, and I don't want to have to charge a lot of money to update somebody's copy of RLOAD just because he bought it too soon, and I don't want to delay sending out the program because I'm in the process of adding another feature. The solution, I think, is to publish any new features in this magazine, and supply source listings of any new feature with self-addressed, stamped envelope, at 10 cents per page. Again, if you subscribe to '68', that should be enough. If you don't, you ought to. Since the subroutines tend to be short and modular, the effort in typing in one or two of them should not be too burdensome. After all, this is what a linking loader is all about!

I have been told that I am not charging enough. That may be true, and I may be headed for some hassle in that regard. However, I will guarantee the price quoted here for a least one month after the cover date of the issue in which this appears. After that, if it is necessary, I may raise the price. I hope not to.

Current plans also include adding 8" disks to my system, so I may be able to furnish this program on 8" disks in a couple of months.

Address inquiries/orders to WORD'S WORTH, PO Box 28954, Dallas, Texas 75228. Please include your actual home or business address, not a PO box, so that I can use UPS for out-of-state orders. As if you didn't already know, FLEX is a trademark of Technical Systems Consultants.

6-12-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: H.L. MARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```
***** MODULE 'ABSPRO' - RLOAD VERS 2.0 *****
* PROCESS ABS RECORD. SIMILAR TO ENT RECORD, EXCEPT NOT
* NECESSARY TO RELOCATE.
* INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTECOUNT OF A BINARY RECORD
*          IN A BUFFER (NOT IN THE FCB BUFFER)
* OUTPUTS- RY=TRASH, RX PRESERVED
*
0000      ENT  ABSPRO      MAKE TABLE ENTRY
0001      EXT  ENTER      SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0002      EXT  SEARCH     ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING
0003      EXT  SYMMEND    CURRENT EOT
0004      *
0006      EXT  SYMTAB     TABLE ADDRESS
0008      EXT  ZCOPY      SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
*
000A      EXT  MEMEND     END OF MEMORY (FLEX)
000C      EXT  PORLF      (FLEX)
000E      EXT  OUTHEX     (FLEX)
0010      EXT  PSTRING    (FLEX)
*
0006      ADDFLD EQU 6      ADDRESS FIELD OF ENTRY IN TABLE
0012      ABSPRO EQU *
0016 36 10 0012      * SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0016 31 21 1FAY 1.0
```

```

0016 30 80 0076 LEAX TPLT,PCOR
001A C6 05 #6 NUMBER OF BYTES TO COPY (MAX)
001C AD 9C E9 JSR [ZCOPY,PCOR]
* GET LINK RECORD ADDRESS FIELD (RY LEFT POINTING THERE,
* RX POINTS TO ADDRESS FIELD OF TEMPLATE)
001F EC A4 LDD .X
0021 ED B4 STD .X
* SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0023 AE 8C E8 LDX SYMTAB,PCOR
0026 31 80 0066 LEAY TPLT,PCOR
002A EC 9C D7 LDD [SYMMEND,PCOR]
002D AD 9C D2 JSR [SEARCH,PCOR]
0030 81 85 CMPA #YES
0032 27 1B BEQ CHKIT
* ENTRY IS NOT IN TABLE, SO ENTER IT,
* LENGTH OF ENTRY
0034 C6 08 LDB #8
0036 36 04 PSHU B
0038 31 80 0054 LEAY TPLT,PCOR
003C AE 9C CB LDX [MEMEND,PCOR]
003F 36 30 PSHU Y,X
0041 10AE 8C BF LDD SYMMEND,PCOR
0045 AE 8C BE LDX SYMTAB,PCOR
0048 36 30 PSHU Y,X
004A AD 9C B3 JSR [ENTER,PCOR]
004D 20 0C BRA EXIT

```

ABSPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

- * ENTRY EXISTS, CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS AN EXT
- * ENTRY, AND NOT A DUPLICATE DEFINITION

```

004F EC 06 004F EQU ADDFLD,X
0051 003 FFFF CHPO #0
0055 26 27 BNE ERROR
* UPDATE THE ADDRESS FIELD ONLY
0057 EC 26 LDD ADDFLD,X
0059 ED 06 STD ADDFLD,X
* EXIT
005B AD 9C AE EQU [PCRLF,PCOR]
005E 30 80 002E JSR TPLT,PCOR
0060 30 80 002E LEAX ADDFLD,X SPACE OVER TO ADDRESS FIELD
0062 AD 9C A7 JSA [OUTHEX,PCOR]
0064 30 80 002E LEAX .X
0066 AD 9C A2 JSR [OUTHEX,PCOR]
0068 30 80 002E LEAX TPLT,PCOR
006A AD 9C 84 LEA #EOS
006C 30 80 002E LEAX ADDFLD,X
006E AD 9C 85 LEA LEADR,PCOR
0070 30 80 0016 JSR [PSTRNG,PCOR]
0072 AD 9C 95 EQU [PULU,RTS]
0074 30 80 007B ERRXIT X
0076 37 10 EQU RTS
007D 39

```

- * ERROR EQU
- * NULL OUT ADDRESS WORD, SO THAT THE ENTRY TEMPLATE
- * CAN BE USED AS PART OF THE ERROR MESSAGE.

```

007E CC 0080 EQU #0
0081 30 80 008B LEAX TPLT,PCOR
0083 ED 06 STD ADDFLD,X
0085 AD 9C 86 JSR [PSTRNG,PCOR]
0087 AD 9C 82 LEA JERR
0089 AD 9C 0C BRA ERRORIT
* LEADR FCC #0 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
008E 20 20 EQU #0
0090 20 44 55 50 EQU #0
0092 4C 49 43 41 EQU #0
0094 54 45 28 45 EQU #0
0096 4E 54 52 59 EQU #0
0098 20 50 6F 49 EQU #0
009A 4E 54 2B 44 EQU #0
009C 4E 66 49 4E EQU #0
009E 49 54 49 4E EQU #0
00A0 4E 04 EQU #0
00BA ENMOD
END

```

ABSPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

ABSPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG	FFF3	ABSPRO	0012	ADDFLD	0006	CHKIT	004F	COMMA	002C
CR	0000	CTR0	0012	END	000A	ENTER	0000	ENTORG	FFF2
EOF	0008	EOS	0004	EQ	0085	ERR	0082	ERRMSG	0098
ERROR	007E	ERRXIT	007B	EXIT	005B	EXTORG	FFF1	FOUND	0083
GT	0086	LEADR	008E	LT	008A	MEMEND	000A	MODORG	0000
MODORG	FFF0	NO	0084	OK	0081	OUTHEX	008E	PCRLF	000C
PSTRNG	0010	RSTX	0082	RTRX	0016	SEARCH	0082	SPACE	0028
SYMTAB	0004	SYMTAB	0006	TMPLT	0090	UNDEF	FFFF	YES	0085
ZCOPY	0008								

ENTER 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

- 0000
- MODULE 'ENTER' - RLOAD VERS 2.0
- * MAKE ENTRY IN TABLE.
 - * INPUTS ON STACK IN ORDER:
 - U-0 TABLE ADDRESS
 - U-2 ADDRESS OF TABLE END POINTER
 - U-4 MAXIMUM TABLE ADDRESS
 - U-6 ADDRESS OF ENTRY TO BE MADE
 - U-8 LENGTH OF ENTRY
 - * THE PRELIMINARY VERSION OF ENTER DOES NOT USE ALL OF THIS INFORMATION, BUT SUBSEQUENT VERSIONS MIGHT.
 - * OUTPUTS - U STACK CLEANED UP.

```

0000 ENT ENTER
0001 EXT EXT
0002 EXT FMSCLS
0004 EXT PSTRNG
* POINTERS INTO U STACK (PARAMETERS)
0000 TABLE EQU 0
0002 TFM EQU 2

```

```

0004 THAX EQU 4
0006 NTRY EQU 6
0008 SLEN EQU 8
0006 AE D8 02 ENTER EQU [TEND,U]
0009 34 10 EQU [TEND,U]
000B E6 48 EQU [TEND,U]
000D 3A EQU [TEND,U]
* CHECK TO SEE THAT THERE IS ROOM TO MAKE ENTRY
000E AC 44 EQU [TEND,U]
0010 2C 14 EQU [TEND,U]
0012 AF D8 02 EQU [TEND,U]
0015 35 10 EQU [TEND,U]
* COPY THE ENTRY INTO THE TABLE
0017 10AE 46 EQU [TEND,U]
001A A6 A0 EQU [TEND,U]
001C A7 80 EQU [TEND,U]
001E 5A 80 EQU [TEND,U]
001F 26 F9 EQU [TEND,U]
0021 86 81 EQU [TEND,U]
0023 33 49 EQU [TEND,U]
0025 39 EQU [TEND,U]
* PANIC EQU [TEND,U]
0026 30 80 0009 EQU [TEND,U]
002A AD 9C D7 EQU [TEND,U]
002D AD 9C D2 EQU [TEND,U]

```

ENTER 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0030 6E 9C CD JMP [FLEX,PCOR]
0033 53 59 40 42 PNCMSG FCC 'SYMBOL OVERFLOW ABORT'.107.EOS
0037 4F 4C 20 4F EQU [TEND,U]
003B 56 45 52 46 EQU [TEND,U]
003F 4C 4F 52 46 EQU [TEND,U]
0043 41 42 4F 52 EQU [TEND,U]
0047 54 07 04 EQU [TEND,U]
004A ENMOD
END

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

ENTER 6-13-81 S ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG	FFF3	COMMA	002C	COPY	001A	CR	0000	CTR0	0006
END	004A	ENTER	0006	ENTORG	FFF2	EOF	0008	EOS	0004
FOUND	0083	GT	0086	LF	008A	LF	0087	MODORG	0000
NO	0084	NTRY	0006	OK	0081	PANIC	0026	PNCMSG	0033
PSTRNG	0004	RSTX	0082	RTRX	0016	SLEN	0008	SPACE	0020
TABLE	0008	TEND	0082	TMAX	0004	UNDEF	FFFF	YES	0085

ENTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0000
..... MODULE 'ENTPRO' - RLOAD VERS 2.0 .....
* PROCESS ENT RECORD,
* INPUTS - RX POINTS TO THE BYTE COUNT OF A BINARY
* LOGICAL RECORD
* RX HAS BASE ADDRESS OF MODULE
* A BUFFER (NOT IN THE FCS BUFFER)
* OUTPUTS- RY=TRASH, RX PRESERVED
0000 ENT ENTPRO
0001 EXT ENTER
0002 EXT SEARCH
0003 EXT SYMMEND
0004 EXT SYMTAB
0005 EXT ZCOPY
0006 EXT MEMEND
0007 EXT PCRLF
0008 EXT OUTHEX
0009 EXT PSTRNG
*
0006 ADDFLD EQU 6 ADDRESS FIELD OF ENTRY IN TABLE
0012 AF 80 00B1 ENTPRO EQU #MBASE,PCOR
* SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0010 31 21 LEAY TPLT,PCOR
001C C6 06 LDB #6
001E AD 9C E7 JSR [ZCOPY,PCOR]
* GET LINK RECORD ADDRESS FIELD (RY LEFT POINTING THERE,
* RX POINTS TO ADDRESS FIELD OF TEMPLATE)
0021 EC AA LDD MBASE,PCOR RELOCATE
0023 E3 80 0070 STD .X
0027 ED 04
* SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0029 AE 8C DA LDX SYMTAB,PCOR
002C 31 80 006B LEAY TPLT,PCOR
0030 EC 9C D1 LDD [SYMMEND,PCOR]
0033 AD 9C CC JSA [SEARCH,PCOR]
0036 81 85 CMPA #YES
0038 27 1B BEQ CHKIT
* ENTRY IS NOT IN TABLE, SO ENTER IT,
* LENGTH OF ENTRY
003A C6 08 LDB #8
003C 36 04 PSHU B
003E 31 80 0059 LEAY TPLT,PCOR
0042 AE 9C C5 LDX [MEMEND,PCOR]
0045 36 30 PSHU Y,X
0047 10AE 8C B9 LDD SYMMEND,PCOR
0049 AE 8C B8 LEA SYMTAB,PCOR
004C 36 30 PSHU Y,X
0050 AD 9C AD JSR [ENTER,PCOR]

```

ENTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0053 20 8C BRA EXIT
* ENTRY EXISTS, CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS AN EXT
* ENTRY, AND NOT A DUPLICATE DEFINITION
0055 EC 06 0055 CHKIT EQU ADDFLD,X
0057 1083 FFFF CHPO #0
0059 26 29 BNE ERROR
* UPDATE THE ADDRESS FIELD ONLY
005D EC 26 LDD ADDFLD,X
005F ED 06 STD ADDFLD,X

```

```

0061 AD 9C 0061 EXIT EQU *
0064 30 80 0033 LEAX TPLT,PCR
0066 30 9C A1 LEAX ADDFLD,X SPACE OVER TO ADDRESS FIELD
0060 30 01 JSR [OUTHEX,PCR]
006F AD 9C 9C LEAX 1,X
0072 30 80 0025 LEAX [OUTHEX,PCR]
0070 30 06 00 LEAX TPLT,PCR
0078 30 06 00 LEAX ADDFLD,X
007A 30 80 001B LEAX LEADR,PCR
007E AD 9C 0F JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0081 00 ERRXIT EQU *
0081 00 RESTORE RX LDX MBASE,PCR
0081 39 80 0012 TPLT RTS
0086 00 ERROR EQU *
0086 00 NULL OUT ADDRESS WORD, SO THAT THE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0086 00 CAN BE USED AS PART OF THE ERROR MESSAGE.
0086 CC 0000 LDX #0
0089 30 80 000E LEAX TPLT,PCR
0080 ED 06 STD ADDFLD,X
008F AD 90 FF7D JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0093 36 82 LDA #ERR
0095 20 EA ERRXIT EQU *
0097 00 MBASE LEADR FCC 0
0099 20 20 TPLT 0
0098 00 LEADR FCC 0
00A3 20 44 55 50 F1GHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
00A7 4C 49 43 41 DUPLICATE ENTRY POINT DEFINITION EOS
00A9 24 45 20 45
00AF 4E 54 52 59
00B3 20 50 4F 49
00B7 4E 54 20 44
00B9 45 46 49 4E
00BF 49 54 49 4E
00C3 4E 04
00C5 ENDMOD

```

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.
 END

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG FFF3	ADDFLD 0006	ERRXIT 0055	COMMA 002C	CR 0000
CTR0 0012	END 00C5	ENTER 0000	ENTORG FFF2	ENTPRO 0012
EOF 0000	EOS 0004	EQ 0085	ERR 0082	ERRMSG 00A3
ERROR 0086	ERRXIT 0081	EXIT 0061	EXTORG FFF1	FOUND 0083
GT 0086	LEADR 0099	LF 0084	LT 0087	MBASE 0097
MEMEND 008A	MODORG FFF0	NO 0084	OK 0081	OUTHEX 000E
PCRLF 000C	PSTRING 0010	RSTX 0082	RTRX 0016	SEARCH 0082
SPACE 0020	SYMMEN 0004	SYMTAB 0086	TPLT 0098	UNDEF FFFF
YES 0085	ZCOPY 0008			

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0000 MODULE 'EXTPRO' - RLOAD VERS 2.0
* PROCESS EXT RECORD.
* INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTE COUNT OF A
* LOGICAL BINARY RECORD.
* OUTPUTS- RA,B,Y=TRASH, RX PRESERVED
0000 ENT EXTPRO
0000 EXT ENTER MAKE TABLE ENTRY
0002 EXT SEARCH SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0004 EXT SYMMEND ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING EOT
0006 EXT SYMTAB TABLE ADDRESS
0008 EXT ZCOPY SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
*
000A EXT MEMEND
000C 36 1B EQU PSHU X
000E 31 21 * SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0010 30 80 0037 LEAY 1,Y
0014 C6 06 LEAX TPLT,PCR
0016 AD 9C EF LDB #6 NUMBER OF BYTES TO COPY (MAX)
0019 CC FFFF * MARK AS NOT YET DEFINED, IN THE TEMPLATE.
001C ED 84 * RX POINTS TO ADDRESS FIELD OF TEMPLATE)
001E AE 8C E5 * SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0021 31 80 0026 LDX SYMTAB,PCR
0025 EC 9C DC LEAY TPLT,PCR
0028 AD 9C D7 LDX [SYMMEND,PCR]
0029 81 05 JSR [SEARCH,PCR]
002D 27 19 CMA #YES
002F C6 08 * ENTRY IS NOT IN TABLE, SO ENTER IT.
0031 36 04 LDB #8
0033 31 80 0014 LEAX TPLT,PCR
0037 AE 9C D0 LDX [MEMEND,PCR]
003A 36 30 PSHU Y,X
003C 10AE 8C C4 LDX SYMMEND,PCR
0040 AE 8C C3 LDX SYMTAB,PCR
0043 36 30 PSHU Y,X
0045 AD 9C 08 LDX [ENTER,PCR]
0048 37 10 EQU X
004A 39 *
004B TPLT 8 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0053 ENMOD FMT

```

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.
 0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG FFF3	COMMA 002C	CR 0000	CTR0 000A	END 0053
ENTER 0000	ENTORG FFF2	EOF 0000	EOS 0004	EQ 0085
ERR 0082	EXIT 0048	EXTORG FFF1	EXTPRO 000C	FOUND 0083
GT 0086	LF 0084	LT 0087	MEMEND 008A	MODORG FFF0
NO 0084	OK 0081	RSTX 0082	RTRX 0016	SEARCH 0082
SPACE 0020	SYMMEN 0004	SYMTAB 0086	TPLT 0048	UNDEF FFFF
YES 0085	ZCOPY 0008			

EXT2 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0000 MODULE 'EXT2' - RLOAD VERS 2.0
* PROCESS EXT RECORD.
* INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTE COUNT OF A
* LOGICAL BINARY RECORD.
* OUTPUTS- RA,B,Y=TRASH, RX PRESERVED
0000 ENT EXT2
0000 EXT ROBNRC READ BINARY RECORD
0002 EXT SEARCH SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0004 EXT SYMMEND ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING EOT
0006 EXT SYMTAB TABLE ADDRESS
0008 EXT ZCOPY SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
000A 36 30 EQU PSHU X,Y
000C 31 21 * SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
000E 30 80 002B LEAY 1,Y
0012 C6 06 LEAX TPLT,PCR
0014 AD 9C F1 LDB #6 NUMBER OF BYTES TO COPY (MAX)
0017 AE 8C CC * SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
001A 31 80 001F LDX SYMTAB,PCR
001E EC 9C C3 LEAY TPLT,PCR
0021 AD 9C DE LDX [SYMMEND,PCR]
0024 AF 80 001D JSR [SEARCH,PCR]
0028 10AE 42 * READ THE NEXT RECORD INTO THE ORIGINAL BUFFER,
002B 31 30 LDX 1,Y AND STUFF THE ENTRY POINT ADDRESS INTO IT.
002D AE CA LDX 0
002F AD 9C CE JSR [ROBNRC,PCR]
0032 AE 80 000F LDX ENTADD,PCR
0034 06 00 LDX ADDFLD,X
0038 ED 24 STD DATA,Y
003A 37 30 EQU PULU X,Y
003C 39 RTS
003D 00 TPLT 8 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0045 00 ENTADD 2 PLACE TO SAVE TABLE POINTER
0047 ENMOD

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

EXT2 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG FFF3	ADDFLD 0006	COMMA 002C	CR 0000	CTR0 000A
DATA 0004	END 0047	ENTADD 004C	ENTORG FFF2	EOF 0000
EOS 0004	EQ 0085	ERR 0082	EXIT 0048	EXT2 000A
EXTORG FFF1	FOUND 0083	GT 0086	LF 0084	LT 0087
MODORG FFF0	NO 0084	OK 0081	ROBNRC 000A	RSTX 0082
RTRX 0016	SEARCH 0082	SPACE 0020	SYMMEN 0004	SYMTAB 0086
TPLT 003D	UNDEF FFFF	YES 0085	ZCOPY 0008	

GETNAM 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
 AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

0000 MODULE 'GETNAM' - RLOAD VERS 2.0
* GET A FILE NAME FROM THE LINK FILE.
* INPUT RX=LINK FILE FCB
* OUTPUT RX=BINARY FILE FCB (OPEN)
0000 ENT GETNAM
0000 EXT FMS
0002 EXT PSTRING
0004 EXT RPTERR
0006 EXT SETEXT
0008 EXT RDCFB
000A 10AE 8C 000A GETNAM EQU *
000E 86 00 LDX RDCFB,PCR
0010 C6 40 LDB #40 WIPE OUT FIRST 64 BYTES OF FCB
0012 A7 A0 EQU STA
0014 5A 00 DEC BNE
0016 26 FB LDX WIPE
0017 10AE 8C ED LDX RDCFB,PCR
0018 31 24 LEAY FNAME,Y POINT TO NAME FIELD
* GET NEXT NAME FROM LINK FILE. FIRST, SKIP OVER LEADING
* BLANKS, COMMAS, & CARRIAGE RETURNS
001D AD 9C 20 EQU *
0020 26 30 LDX [FMS,PCR]
0022 81 80 CAN
0024 27 00 CMA
0026 81 20 CMA
0028 27 00 CMA
002A 81 2C CMA
002C 27 00 BEQ GET1
002E GET2 EQU *
002F 81 80 * COPY UP TO THE NEXT SPACE, CR, COMMA
0030 27 00 CMA
0032 81 20 BEQ GETXIT
0034 27 80 CMA
0036 81 2C BEQ GETXIT
0038 27 00 CMA
003A 27 80 BEQ GETXIT
003C 27 00 STA

```



```

003C AD 9C C1 JSR [FMS,PCB]
003F 26 1E CANI
0041 20 EB GEY2
0043 8C C2 0043 GETXIT RDCB,PCB
0044 4F 0044 CLOA [SETXT,PCB] BINARY FILE
0045 AD 9C BC JSR $OPEN
004A 86 01

```

GETNAM
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS. PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

004C A7 84 STA FUNCTN,X
004E 86 01 LDA #1
0050 A7 83 STA DRIVE,X
0052 AD 9C AB JSR [FMS,PCB]
0055 26 08 BNE CANI
0057 86 FF LDA #BREAD
0059 A7 88 3B STA COMPRFL,X
005C 86 81 LDA #OK
005E 39 005E EXIT EQU RTS
005F 86 01 005F CANT EQU *
0061 01 01 LDA ERRSTAT,X
0063 27 09 COMPA #EOF
0065 36 10 BEQ EXIT
0067 30 80 006C LEAX MNAME,PCB
0068 AD 9C 94 JSR [PSTRNG,PCB]
006E 37 18 PULX X
0070 AD 9C 91 JSR [RPTERR,PCB]
0073 86 82 LDA #ERR
0075 20 E7 BRA EXIT
0077 47 45 54 4E MNAME FCC 'GETNAM WAS UNABLE'
0079 41 40 28 57
007F 41 53 28 55
0083 4E 41 42 4C
0087 45 20
0089 54 4F 20 4F FCC 'TO OPEN BINARY FILE'.EOS
0090 50 45 4E 20
0091 42 49 4E 41
0095 25 59 20 46
0099 49 4C 45 04
009D
ENDMOD
END

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

GETNAM
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS. PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG	FFF3	BREAD	00FF	CANT	005F	COMMA	002C	COMPRF	003B
CR	0000	CTRO	000A	DRIVE	0003	END	0090	ENTORG	FFF2
EOF	0008	COFFLA	0009	EOS	0004	EQ	0085	ERR	0082
ERRSTA	0001	EXIT	005E	EXTORG	FFF1	FCLOSE	0004	FMS	0008
FNAME	0004	FOUND	0063	FUNCTN	0000	GET1	0010	GET2	002E
GETNAM	000A	GETXIT	0043	NO	0004	OK	0081	LT	0007
MNAME	0077	MODORG	FFF0	RDCB	0008	RENAME	0080	REHND	0005
PSTRNG	0002	PURGE	000C	RSTX	0002	RTRX	0016	SETXT	0006
ROPN	0001	RPTERR	0004	UPDATE	0003	WIPE	0012	WOPEN	0002
SPACE	0020	UNDEF	FFFF						
YES	0005								

To be continued...

WAVE MATE 2000

Despite a host of new 6809 computers being introduced for the past few years, a new version using an old favorite the MC6800, has started to take hold. Introduced by WAVE MATE, an old established microcomputer manufacturer, the Series 2000 proves that old is not the same as obsolete. The 2000 is a solid 2 mhz, dual density, dual disk 5" single cabinet microcomputer system. Available also with 5 and 8 inch external disk systems and a winchester for the heavy user. Which indicates that the 6800 is still 'one fine CPU'.

The specifications are quite impressive and our unit has performed flawlessly for over six months. They are as follows:

Temperature range 50-90 degrees fahrenheit (10-35 celsius) with a maximum relative humidity rating of 80% (non-condensing). The 2000 is 13" high, 17" wide, 20" deep and weighs in at 44 pounds. The finish is grey and off white. CPU 68000, 2mhz clock, programmable interrupt and on board real time clock. Internal memory 64K of RAM with hidden refresh and 1K Boot ROM and diagnostics. Disk storage is now external with either 40 or 80 track double sided drives. 40 track disk subsystem is 184,320 bytes per disk capacity. 80 track capacity is 368,640 bytes per disk. With the 80 track system the total 'on line' capacity is 1,474,560 bytes. Access time is 12 ms track to track, 270 ms average random access. Two drives standard, however a maximum of four 5" drives may be used.

Video display 12 inches diagonal, P4 phosphor. Format is 24 line by 80 characters with a 25th line programmable. A full 95 character displayable ASCII set, plus 33 graphic symbols. Display mode either normal or reverse. Character type is Upper Case 5X7 dot matrix, Lower Case 5X9 dot matrix with true descenders. Graphics 8X10 dot matrix. Cursor shape block or underline, blinking. Cursor controls, up, down, left, right and home. Cursor addressing either relative or absolute.

The keyboard is a standard commercial typewriter keyboard. Alphanumeric 60 keys, special functions 8 (user programmable) and 12 normal function keys. Numeric pad is 12 key numeric, cursor control, editing and user programmable function. Some very nice 'Special Features' are system reset key, ESC sequences, control key, keyboard lock/unlock from host processor and break key.

I/O 2 serial RS232C ports, software selectable rates 110,300,1200,2400,4800 and 9600 baud. Expansion ports available, three slots. Winchester disk optional, 11 megabytes. For those needing additional I/O there is available a wire wrapping prototype board, with connectors, retail is \$35.00.

The cabinet is of structural foam (Zenith) with removeable top. The three circuit boards are, 1) CPU, memory, disk controller and I/O. 2) Video logic board (Zenith). 3) Video display board (Zenith).

Power requirements, 100/220 VAC, 50/60 hz, 90 watts.

SOFTWARE

The 2000 has four (4) operating systems. FLEX®, Software Dynamics SOOS® and the Wave Mate real time disk operating system, MTS-6800® Multi-Tasking OS. TFORTH has been accomplished for this system by Dr. Ray Talbot. Also a complete package of UCSD PASCAL.

On initial power the system accomplishes a memory test and then the disk is automatically booted. Also during power on the video board and other internal systems are tested. If a defect is detected the system displays a message that helps locate the defective part. This can save a lot of grief later, especially if something has turned sour internally and we do not find out until after we try to save a couple of hours of data file editing. It is always nice to know beforehand, sometime even vital.

The system monitor incorporates a 'DEBUG' mode. These consist of a hex memory examine and change routine, a GOTO jump routine. G command for a reboot and defined jump vectors as follows: Bootstrap loader, init console hardware, output ACC-A data to console, input console data to ACC-A, test for char available at console, test for escape char at console, init port 1 and output ACC-A data to port 1 (aux or host device.).

SERIAL PORTS

Port 1 is configured as a DCE port (Data communications equipment). Port 2 is configured as a OTE port (Data terminal equipment). Computers and MODEMS qualify as DCE types and most other peripherals are of the OTE type. Therefore in general the number 1 port would be a printer port and the number 2 port a MODEM port. The system comes with both these ports wired and ready for your standard I/O needs. Full documentation is included for these two additionally supplied ports.

INTERNAL HARDWARE DEVICES

The internal devices are composed of the following special LSI devices, Disk controller

FD1793-B02 (Western Digital), MC6850 (3) (Motorola), SY6522 Disk and baud rate select (Synertek). The SY6522 has its capability divided into 4 areas, serial port baud rate select and control, floppy disk unit select and control, software clock using internal timer and other unused functions available at the I/O expansion interface.

Three I/O expansion slots are available on the series 2000 CPU board for interfacing modules to the I/O bus. They consist of 10 and 25 pin connectors.

On a 64K system the memory map is defined as:

FFFF	ROM
FC80	I/O PORTS
FC00	Unpopulated if less than 64K
xxFF	System Page
xx00	MTS-6800 RAM determined by system as to size
Node Pool RAM	default two pages
zzFF	USER TOP RAM
0100-00FE	SYSTEM PAGE POINTER
0000-00FD	USER PAGE ZERO

DOCUMENTATION

The system comes with very complete documentation. For each of the operating systems a separate manual is included. Technical diagrams and other data are available and includes the very complete Zenith operator and maintenance manuals for the video and power supply portions.

OPERATION

We have been using the series 2000 for some months now. With the exception of an IC failure (Zenith) the first day, we have experienced no failures, glitches or sub-par operation. The quality of the boards (socketed) and components is excellent and should prove to be very dependable.

The disks have performed flawlessly. However, there is one temporary disadvantage that bears mention. The early production models of the series 2000 have the disk directory written in double density format. This is a hardware design feature. The standard for the Standard S50 Bus has been a single density directory for both formats. This permits a single or double density system to access the directory. Therefore a double density system could also read and write single density. However, a single density system can not read or write a double density disk. By being double density in the directory it does preclude the transportation of disks between the series 2000 and most other 6800 systems, especially those on the Standard S50 Bus. Transportation between series 2000 computers is completely functional. However, this problem has and does exist between other Standard S50 Bus disk systems but not for this particular reason.

Wave Mate has informed us that they will change this in future production models of the series 2000. For those of us having the original double density

directory format a factory modification is promised. The price is estimated to be between \$25.00 and \$50.00 when available.

The video is crisp and sharp with no smearing or other distortions. The relative small size of the entire system makes it very convenient for moving from desk to desk. Having the wide choice of software allows a very complete development and applications system.

CONCLUSION

We have found that all the tasks we have assigned to the Wave Mate series 2000 have been accomplished without any glitches. The quality is first class and the entire machine packs a lot of power into a compact package. Considering the depth of software available for the 6800 this machine should fill an useful and economical position in the 68XX picture. The FLEX® Disk Operating System was modified for this system by Great Plains Computer Company, Inc. (see ad this issue) and they are developing software for this system on a continuing basis. The SDOS® system by Software Dynamics allows the system a large library of applications software. This includes the Software Dynamics BASIC compiler system and text editing systems, as well as all other Software Dynamics time proven applications and other software packages. With the policy of Software Dynamics not to obsolete their applications and development packages, upgrades and conversions from 6800 to 6809, means long term usage. UCSD PASCAL® opens the door for many new applications being currently developed. For those who like to work close to the internal functions of the system the MTS-6800® real-time disk system is a natural.

Prices start at \$3195.00 and for a full 64K system as reviewed with UCSD PASCAL \$3450.00. Additional information can be obtained from:

Wave Mate Inc, 14009 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250, (213) 978-8600, Telex 194369.

In Europe: Wave Mate International, 159 CH de Vleurgat, 1050 Brussels, BELGIUM, (02) 649-1070, Telex 24050.

BIT Bucket

LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA COMPANY

A DIVISION OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION
Burbank, CALIFORNIA 91506

REF: 10412

'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
P.O. Box 849
Knox, Tennessee 37343

Gentlemen:

We have a SWTPC DMAP-1 disk drive which we need to use with the SWTPC S09 computer, running at 1 Mhz. SWTPC has no information on such a conversion. The ideal solution would be a second control board so we could keep the present controller in our 6800 computer.

Perhaps some of your readers or advertisers could be of help.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA CO.

Marion E. Wolfe

Marion E. Wolfe
M&P Testing Engineer
Test Services Laboratory
Dept. 37-16, Bldg. 180 Ft. 3-1

68 MICRO JOURNAL DISK PROGRAMS

DISK - 1: FILESORT, MINICAT, MINICOPY, MINIFMS, LIFETIME.BAS, POETRY.BAS, DIET.BAS, FOODLIST.BAS

DISK - 2: DISKEDIT, PRIME, PRIMOD, SNOOPY.BAS, FOOTBALL.BAS, HEXPAWN.BAS, LIFETIME.BAS, SPACEWAR.BAS, INSTR, DISKEDIT.REP (patches to DISKEDIT)

DISK - 3: CBUG09, SEC1, SEC2, FIND, TABLE2, NOTE, INTEXT, DISK-EXP, DISKSAVE

NOTE: All programs are as published by 68 Micro Journal with some additions or patches (if received).

This is a "READER SERVICE" only! It is made available in order to eliminate input and debugging time by 68 MICRO JOURNAL readers. No WARRANTY is given or implied for the code or program action. Please remember they are as received and published.

PRICE: 8" DISK - \$19.95 5" DISK - \$17.95

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some other 6809 programmers could do, but they work. As it was, this mod was my first attempt at interfacing with the FLEX "FMS" in assembler. I also added a parallel printer driver to the package, so that the printer can be driven directly from a Pascal applications program via the SETP(3) command.

The files break down as follows:

1) DMDD3.PAS This is the assembler patch to change the Pascal from cassette to disk and add in a printer driver.

2) LIFE.TXT This is a Pascal program for the game of life. It is written to drive a Heathkit H-19 terminal, and would have to be modified to run anything else.

3) CRYPTO.TXT A "formatter" for cryptoquote addicts such as myself. It has no intelligence, that would detract from my fun. Rather it makes it much easier to do letter substitutions. Again, it is written for an H-19.

In general, I have found DYNASOFT products VERY well made and documented. Al Jost has always been most cordial in conversation. I have had three versions of the Pascal. One for the 6800, and two for the 6809. In two cases I found a bug, but they were cleared up immediately. The latest version (1.3) is a real joy to use. For what has been implemented (of Pascal) I would rate the product AAA. You may publish any of or all of the programs contained on this disk. In fact, if you have a diskette copy service there, it may be convenient to offer the patches file, but that's up to you.

I really enjoy 68-Micro and hope that I might have some more offerings. Some ideas that I am working on are some memory diagnostics and some utilities written in C. I just sent in an order for Dugger's C compiler. Once the compiler is up to snuff (version 3) I rather suspect that I will be doing ALL my programming in C. I might even be so bold as to predict that with a year or two, most utilities submitted to 68-Micro will be written in the C language. I have looked at the big Pascal's and also at Fourth... but C still looks like the best. Since I program in C at work, it will also be nice to use one language for both places.

My system is all homebrew, but is mapped to look like a FLEX system. It consists of a 6809 processor, 56K of memory, two 5.25 inch floppies and and MX-80 printer. I hope to add in a 9511 math processor fairly soon, and a few more i/o channels.

Norm Commo

Ed's Note: Due to the length (over 125 sectors) of the various patches and programs it is impractical, at this time, to run the listings of Norm's fine efforts. Therefore, we will make available, at the standard disk service price (see advertising about disk service this issue) of all of Norm's work.

Please allow 2 weeks for mailing out of these disk as they will have to be special handling.

DMW —

FORMAT

The attached program, which I call FORMY, is designed to add prior output to TSC's cassette based TEST EDITOR. It should work also with the disk based Editor, but I suppose most who are using disk based systems would also have TSC's TEST PROCESSOR. This little program won't begin to approach the Processor's capability, but it does enable one to generate decent hardcopy with little more than the Editor, and it doesn't cost add.00. (The cost of the Test Processor the last time I checked)

The TSC Test Editor costs only \$49.00. For this price you get the source code, object code, and a cassette for C. C. std. loading. Once I bought it, I was even less likely to directly influence the object listing, but I guess that's available any longer. For the price, I can't imagine anyone willing to do without it.

I wrote the format program over a period of time. Actually, I didn't really write it, it just sort of grew. The original idea was to just get the Editor to list output directly to a printer on a parallel port. Once that was accomplished, other enhancements followed. As it stands, Format gives me the opportunity to choose the number of characters per line, to decide whether the line is to be centered, or shifted to the right or to the left, and obtain right-justified margins (most of the time). I use the program with an Epson RX-80 printer, and so I also get the various special printing codes (expanded, compressed, enhanced, etc.) that the Epson provides.

STAR-KITS

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NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

MAGIC SPELL!

Now YOUR 6800 or 6809 system can proofread YOUR text files for spelling and typographical errors in just minutes.

MAGIC SPELL (it) compares each word in a text file against a master dictionary file, and displays or prints every word not found. The program is written in machine language and is extremely fast and compact - it will run in systems as small as 16K, and can proofread documents much larger than can be held in memory.

MAGIC SPELL (it) is supplied with a core dictionary containing thousands of English words. The dictionary is easily modified by any text editor and can quickly be customized by the addition of technical terms or even names. Moreover, as new words are encountered in your text files, MAGIC SPELL (it) can add them to your dictionary automatically.

MAGIC SPELL (it) is now available in versions for technical Systems Consultants' MiniFlex, Flex 2, and Flex 9 disk operating systems, as well as for Percom disk systems, and costs \$69.29 with source code and dictionary on disk. OS-9 and 889 disk versions will be available soon.

For further information write for our catalog or call (914) 241-0287. If you call in the late evening, turn on your modem and LIST MAGIC.DAT.

INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL

To celebrate the introduction of this programming tool, we are offering it at the special price of \$59.29 until November 10th, 1981.

July 25, 1981

Dear Mr. Williams,

This disk contains all the files that were used in updating cassette based DYNASOFT Pascal, version 1.2 to FLEX. The mods may not be elegant compared to what

I've included both an object dump of the program, and the source listing. I've made improvements to the code, and not everyone will want to port it, but I've got it, hence the need for the source.

Now for a few comments about the program. It is written assuming a printer on a parallel interface on port 87. This shouldn't be too hard to change if your system is otherwise. One enters the format program from the Editor by the command `SP`, patched into the Editor command set. When this command is processed, the printer is set up for double spaced lines, with a maximum of 80 characters per line. The program prompts for a format code to specify the output form. The proper response is a three digit input of the form "100". This is interpreted by the program as "double spaced", with 40 lines characters per line. I considered trying to convert a decimal input, but it won't work too well at the time. Maybe later. Acceptable first character inputs are C, L, and M. As long as the numerical input is less than 50, the 100 dec will, and the three format C, L, or M will be used. If a line length greater than 80 decimal is required, such as when using the compressed printing mode, the 8 input is the only acceptable form, though possibly unpleasant here. I immediately after the third character is input, printing begins. After printing is complete, the `POS` command should be given. In order to obtain single line spacing, enter the `POS` command immediately before the `SP` command.

Printout of test directly from the Editor file can be obtained by entering the `POS` or `P00` command then the Editor command sequence `'P'P` (top of file, print to bottom of file). Listing 81 is a sample printout of a test file prepared for format printing. The line numbers are as printed or deleted by the Editor commands, but I find it more convenient to edit the test using a hard copy with line numbers. The file is basically the same as any test file, except that some special characters are required for control. These characters and their functions are summarized below:

Character	Function in format
*	end of paragraph
^	stop printing to change format
1	end of test

Other characters could easily be substituted for the ones I've used, and in fact it was necessary for me to change temporarily to some other characters in order to prepare this article. Obviously, an attempt to use one of the control characters in a test would generate the function, rather than result in the printing of the character.

Listing 87 is the test as it appears when output by the format program. The characters per line and coloring are under adjustable.

```

00010      NAM      FORMAT
00020      #
00030      # Program by Charlie MacFaulair
00040      # 2403 Perry Lane
00050      # Alvin, Texas 77511
00060      #
00070      # CPT 0,NEW
00080      #
00090 0010      ORG 00010
00100      #
00110 0010 0001  TEST1  RMB 1
00120 0011 0001  TEST2  RMB 1
00130 0012 0001  TEST3  RMB 1
00140      #
00150 0024      ORG 00024
00160      #
00170 0024 0002  EOL  RMB 2
00180 0026 0002  EOL  RMB 2
00190 0028 0002  PTR2  RMB 2
00200 002A 0001  LINEB  RMB 1
00210 002B 0001  LENGTH  RMB 1
00220 002C 0002  OFFSET  RMB 2
00230 002E 0002  ENDPNT  RMB 2
00240 0030 0002  XTEMP3  RMB 2
00250 0032 0001  ADJFLB  RMB 1
00260 0033 0001  ADJFL2  RMB 1
00270      #
00280      # External Equates #
00290      #
00300 0097  FILBND  EQU 00097
00310 0099  FILBND  EQU 00099
00320 005B  SPCPT1  EQU 0005B
00330 005A  SPCPT2  EQU 0005A
00340 000D  BUFFER  EQU 0000D
00350 0100  BUFF2  EQU 00100
00360      #
00370      # SWTBUS LOCATIONS #
00380      #
00390 E055  BYTE  EQU 0E055
00400 E07E  PDATA1  EQU 0E07E
00410 E1AC  INEE  EQU 0E1AC
00420      #
00430 A200      ORG 0A200
00440 A200 CE A31E INSTR  LD 4TEXTS1
00450 A 03 BD E07E JSR PDATA1  PRINT INSTR ON CRT
00460 A204 BD A2C4 JSR INPUT  PICK UP FORMAT
00470 A209 DE 97  LD 1  FILBND
00480 A20B DF 5B  STX  SPCPT1
00490 A20D DE 99  LD 1  FILBND
00500 A20F DF 5A  STX  SPCPT2
00510 A 11 CE 000D LD 1  BUFFER  TO SET INITIAL PT OF LINE
00520 A214 DF 2E  STZ  ENDPNT
00530 A216 96 2B  LD 1  LENGTH
00540 A218 9B 2F  ADD 1  ENDPNT+1
00550 A21A 97 2F  STA 1  ENDPNT+1
00560 A21C 7F 002A CLR 1  LINEB
00570      #
00580 A21F BD A2DA NEWLIN JSR PTEST
00590      #
00600 A222 DE 5B  LOAD  LD 1  SPCPT1  SPCPT1 HOLDS POS. IN FILE
00610 A224 5F  L.OA02 CLR 1
00620 A225 A6 00  LD 1  A 0,X
00630 A227 0B  INY
00640 A228 B1 0D  CMP 1  000D  IS IT A CARRIAGE RET?
00650 A22A 26 10  BNE  ST01
00660 A22C 0B  INX
00670 A22D 0B  INX
00680 A22E 0B  INX
00690 A22F DF 5B  STX  SPCPT1
00700 A231 20 F1  BRA  L.OA02
00710      #
00720 A233 BD A2C4 BREAK JSR INPUT
00730 A236 B8 00  ADD 1  0000
00740 A238 97 2F  STA 1  ENDPNT+1
00750 A23A 0E 0B  BRA  L.OA02
00760      #
00770 A 3C B1 7E S101  CMP 1  0  For end of paragraph
00780 A23E 27 5A  BEQ  ENDPAR

```

```

00790 A240 B1 2E      CMP 1  000E  2E=
00800 A242 27 15      BEQ  PERIOD
00810      #
00820      # Insert ^ between ^ to change Printout
00830 A244 B1 5E      CMP 1  005E  SE=^
00840 A246 27 EB      BEQ  BREAK
00850 A248 B1 5C      CMP 1  005C  \ FOR END OF TEXT
00860 A24A 27 A7      BEQ  DONE
00870 A24C 01 00      CMP 1  0000  Skip over nulls
00880 A24E 26 1E      BNE  ST03
00890 A250 20 02      BRA  LOAD2
00900      #
00910 A252 B6 DA      SKLINE LDA 1  000A
00920 A254 BD A345 JSR PRINT1
00930 A257 20 15      BRA  ST03
00940      #
00950 A259 E6 00      PERIOD LDA 1  0,X
00960 A25B C1 20      CMP 1  0020  LOOK AT NEXT CHAR IN FILE
00970 A25D 26 03      BNE  CKNUMB  IS NEXT CHARACTER A SPACE?
00980 A25F 5F  CLR 1
00990 A260 20 0C      BRA  ST03
01000 A262 C1 39      CKNUMB CMP 1  0039
01010 A264 2E 06      BGT  INSERT  IF NOT A SPACE, SEE IF IT IS
01020 A266 C1 30      CMP 1  0030  A NUMBER (0-9).
01030 A268 20 02      BGT  INSERT
01040 A26A 20 02      BRA  ST03  IF NOT A NUMBER, INSERT SPACE
01050      #
01060 A26C C6 20      INSERT LDA 1  0020  LOAD A SPACE IN B ACC.
01070      #
01080 A26E DF 5B      ST03  STX  SPCPT1  SAVE CURRENT POS. IN FILE
01090 A270 DE 2C      LD 1  OFFSET  GET POSITION IN LINE
01100 A272 A7 00      STA 1  0,X
01110      #
01120 A274 0B 0F      LOOPS  INX
01130 A276 DF 2C      STX  OFFSET
01140 A278 9C 2E      CPX  ENDPNT  POINT TO NEXT POS. IN LINE
01150 A27A 27 0B      BEQ  ADJUST  POINT TO NEXT CHARACTER
01160      #
01170 A27B C1 20      CMP 1  0020  IS SPACE TO BE ADDED?
01180 A27D 26 A3      BNE  LOAD  Go for the next character
01190 A27F DE 2C      LD 1  OFFSET
01200 A281 E7 00      STA 1  0,X
01210 A283 5F  CLR 1
01220 A 4 20 EE      BRA  L.OA03
01230      #
01240 A286 09 01      ADJUST DEX 1  BACK UP TO LAST CHARACTER
01250 A288 A6 00      LDA 1  0,X
01260 A289 B1 20      CMP 1  0020  WAS IT A SPACE ?
01270 A28B 27 17      BEQ  DONEA
01280 A28D DF 2C      STX  OFF 1  NO, SO PLACE BACK IN FILE
01290 A28F DE 5B      LD 1  SPCPT1  AND LOOK FOR NEXT CHAR. BACK
01300 A291 09 01      DEX 1
01310 A293 A7 00      STA 1  0,X
01320 A295 DF 5B      STX  SPCPT1
01330 A297 DE 2C      LD 1  OFFSET
01340 A299 20 EC      BRA  ADJUST  LOOP UNTIL A SPACE IS FOUND
01350      #
01360 A29A DF 5B      ENOPAR STX  SPCPT1
01370 A29C 7F 0032 CLR 1  ADJFLB
01380 A29E 7F 0032 CLR 1  ADJFL2
01390 A2A2 DE 2C      LD 1  OFFSET
01400 A2A4 BD 29      DONEA  BR 1  SLFCR
01410 A2A6 7D 0032 TST 1  ADJFLB
01420 A2A8 27 03      BEQ  SKPADJ
01430 A2AB BD A3B6 JSR RADJST
01440 A2AE BD 5F      SKPADJ BR 1  SPRINT
01450 A2B0 7E A21F JMP  NEWLIN
01460      #
01470 A2B3 DE 2C      DONE  LD 1  OFFSET
01480 A2B5 B6 0A      LDA 1  000A
01490 A2B7 A7 00      STA 1  0,X
01500 A2B9 A7 01      STA 1  1,X
01510 A2BB B6 0D      LDA 1  000D
01520 A2BD A7 02      STA 1  2,X
01530 A2BF BD 4E      BR 1  SPRINT
01540 A2C1 7E 0203 JMP  00203  RETURN TO EDITOR
01550      #
01560      # FOLLOWING SUBROUTINES USED BY FORMAT PROGRAM
01570      #
01580 A2C4 BD E1AC INPUT JSR INEE
01590 A2C7 97 11      STA 1  TEST2
01600 A2C9 BD E055 JSR 1  BYTE
01610 A2CC 97 2B      STA 1  LENGTH
01620 A2CE 39 02      RTS
01630      #
01640 A2CF B6 0A      SLFCA LDA 1  000A  LINEFEED
01650 A2D1 A7 00      STA 1  0,X
01660 A2D3 B6 0D      LDA 1  000D  CARRIAGE RETURN
01670 A2D5 A7 01      STA 1  1,X
01680 A2D7 A7 02      STA 1  2,X
01690 A2D9 39 02      RTS
01700      #
01710 A2DA B6 10      PTEST LDA 1  TEST1
01720 A2DC C1 01      CMP 1  0001
01730 A2DE 27 04      BEQ  LINE1  SINGLE SPACE ONLY
01740 A2E0 B6 0A      LDA 1  000A
01750 A2E2 BD 61      BR 1  PRINT1
01760 A2E4 96 11      LINE1 LDA 1  TEST2  CK 10 DET FORMAT (C,L,R)
01770 A2E6 B1 52      CMP 1  0052
01780 A2E8 27 02      BEQ  CPRINT
01790 A 20 0B      BRA  CORL
01800 A2EC CE 0000 CPRINT LD 1  0000
01810 A2EF DF 2C      STX  OFFSET
01820 A2F1 BD 41      BR 1  CLRBUFF
01830 A2F3 7C 0032 INC 1  ADJFLB
01840 A2F6 39 02      RTS
01850      #
01860 A2F7 C6 50      CORL  LDA 1  0050  L.OA00 80 DEC.
01870 A2F9 D0 2B      SUB 1  LENGTH  80-L = B
01880 A2FB 27 EF      BEQ  CPRINT
01890 A2FD B1 43      CMP 1  0043
01900 A2FF 26 01      BNE  CONTC
01910 A301 37 02      BR 1  B
01920 A303 B6 20      CONTC LDA 1  0020
01930 A305 3A 02      ISCL  DEC 1

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01940 A305 37      PSW B
01950 A306 8D 3D   BSR      PRINT1
01960 A308 33      PUL B
01970 A309 C1 00   CMP B    #000
01980 A30B 27 DF   BEQ      CPRINT
01990 A30D 20 F3   BRA      18CL1
02000
0210
02020 A30F CE 8000  SPRINT LDX #BUFFER
02030 A312 A6 00   LDAB A    0,X
02040 A314 8D 2F   BSR      PRINT1
02050 316 01 00   SKIP3    CMP A    #000
02060 A318 27 03   BEQ      SPOUT
02070 A31A 08      INX
02080 A31B 20 F3   BSR      LOOPS
02090 A31D 39      SPOUT   RTS
02100
02110 A31E 10      TEXTS1 FCB #10,816 HOME UP & CLEAR
02120 A320 4C      FCC      /LINE FORMAT (HEX)/
02130 A331 0A      FCB      #0A, #00
02140 A333 04      FCB      4
02150
02160 A334 36      CLABUF PSW A
02170 A335 37      PSW 0
02180 A336 4F      CLA A
0219 A337 C6 50   LDAB B    #050
02200 A339 A7 00   BSTORE  STA A    0,X
02210 A33B 08      INX
02220 A33C 5A      DEC B
02230 A33D 26 FA   BNE      BSTORE
02240 A33F 32      PUL A
02250 A340 33      PUL B
02260 A341 CE 8000  LDX
02270 A344 39      RTS      #BUFFER
02280
02290
02300 A345 81 0A   PRINT1 CMP A    #00A
02310 A347 26 0E   BNE      NOTLF
02320 A349 D4 2A   LDAB B    LINEB
02330 A34B C1 39   CMP B    #039
02340 A34D 26 05   BNE      NOTFIN
02350 A34F 8D 09   BSR      SENDOFF
02360 A351 D7 2A   STA B    LINES
02370 A353 39      RTS
02380 A354 7C 002A NOTFIN INC     LINES
02390 A357 8D 0A   NOTLF  BSR      PDELAY
02400 A359 39      RTS
02410
02420 A35A 36      SPOWFF PSW A
02430 A35B 86 8C   LDAB A    #48C
02440 A35D D A363  LDAB B    PDELAY
02450 A360 3F      CLA B
02460 A361 32      PUL A
02470 A362 39      RTS
02480
02490 A363 DF 30   PDELAY BTX      XTEMP3
02500 A365 CE 801C  LDX      #801C
02510 A368 3F      CLA B
02520 A369 E7 01   STA B    1,X
02530 A36B C6 FF   LDAB B    #0FF
02540 A36D E7 00   STA B    0,X
02550 A36F C6 04   LDAB B    #004
02560 A371 E7 01   STA B    1,X
02570 A373 A7 00   STA B    0,X
02580 A375 C6 36   LDAB B    #036
02590 A377 E7 01   STA B    1,X
02600 A379 C6 3E   LDAB B    #03E
02610 A37B E7 01   STA B    1,X
02620 A37D C6 01   LDAB B    1,X
02630 A37F 2A FC   BPL      0-2
02640 A381 A6 00   LDAB A    0,X
02650 A383 DE 30   LDI      XTEMP3
02660 A385 39      RTS
02670
02680 A386 DE 26   ADJUST LDX      ENDPNT
02690 A388 DF 2A   EDI      EDI
02700 A38A CE 8000  LDX      #BUFFER
02710 A38D DF 24   STX      SOL
02720 A38F CE 8100  LDX      #BUFF2
02730 392 DF 28   STX      PTR2
02740 A394 96 2F   LDAB A    ENDPNT+1
02750 A396 90 2D   SUB A    OFFSET+1
02760 A398 16      TAB
02770 A399 73 0033  COM      ADJFL2
02780 A39C 7D 0033  TST      ADJFL2
02790 A39F 27 1B   BEQ      LBP
02800
02810 A3A1 5D      RSP      TST B
02820 A3A2 27 5E   BEQ      DONERJ
02830 A3A4 DE 2C   LDX      OFFSET
02840 A3A6 A6 01   LDAB A    1,X
02850 A3A8 09      DEX
02860 A3A9 DF 2C   STX      OFFSET
02870 A3AB DE 26   LDX      EDI
02880 A3AD 81 20   CMP A    #020
02890 A3AF 26 04   BNE      SKPR
02900 A3B1 A7 01   STA A    1,X
02910 A3B3 09      DEX
02920 A3B4 5A      DEC B
02930 A3B5 A7 01   SKPR   STA A    1,X
02940 A3B7 09      DEX
02950 A3B8 DF 26   BTX      EDI
02960 A3B 20 E3    BRA      RSP
02970
02980 A3BC 5D      LBP      TBT B
02990 A3BD 27 43   BEQ      DONERJ
03000 A3BF DE 24   LSL-LOOP LDX      SOL
03010 A3C1 09      DEX
03020 A3C2 09      DEX
03030 A3C3 9C 2E   CP1      #0PNT
03040 A3C5 27 19   BEQ      DONLAJ
03050 A3C7 A6 02   LDAB A    2,X
03060 A3C9 7C 0025 INC      SOL+1
03070 A3CC DE 28   LDX      PTR2

03080 A3CE 5D      TBT B
03090 A3CF 27 08   BEQ      SKPL
03100 A3D1 81 20   CMP A    #020
03110 A3D3 26 4    BNE      SKPL
03120 A3D5 A7 00   STA A    0,X
03130 A3D7 08      INX
03140 A3D8 5A      DEC B
03150 A3D9 A7 00   SKPL   STA A    0,X
03160 A3DB 08      INX
03170 A3DC DF 28   STX      PTR2
03180 A3DE 20 DF   BRA      LBP-LOOP
03190
03200
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03220 A3E0 CE 8000  DONLAJ LDX #BUFFER
03230 A3E3 C6 03   LDAB B    #03
03240 A3E5 D8 27   ADD B
03250 A3E7 D7 27   STA B    EDI+1
03260 A3E9 DF 24   STX      SOL
03270 A3EB CE 8100  LDX      #BUFF2
03280 A3EE DF 28   STX      PTR2
03290 A3F0 DE 28   SML-LOOP LDX
03300 A3F2 A6 00   LDAB A    0,X
03310 A3F4 08      INX
03320 A3F5 DF 28   STX      PTR2
03330 A3F7 DE 24   LDX      SOL
03340 A3F9 A7 00   STA A    0,X
03350 A3FB 08      INX
03360 A3FD DF 24   STX      SOL
03370 3FE 9C 26   CPX      EDI
03380 A400 26 EE   BNE      SML-LOOP
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03400 A402 39      DONERJ RTS
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03460 0206      ORG      #0206
03470
03480 0206 7E E1FA INCHB JMP      #E1FA Enable 8-BIT Input
03490 0209 7E 1A41 OUTCH JMP      PRPTCH Patch Character out
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03530 0214      ORG      #0214
03540
03550 0214 41      TABLE FCC /A/ Replace 'APPEND' with 'A'
03560 0215 00      FCB      0
03570 0216 12D0   FDB      #12D0
03580
03590 0218 42      FCC      /B/ Replace 'BOTTOM' with 'B'
03600 0219 00      FCB      0
03610 021A 09BE   FDB      #09BE
03620
03630 021C 43      FCC      /C/ Replace 'COPY' with 'C'
03640 021E 00      FCB      0
03650 021F 0FF3   FDB      #0FF3
03660
03670 0221 50      FCC      /PDN/ Add new command Print On
03680 0224 00      FCB      0
03690 0225 1492   FDB      #1492
03700
03710 0227 50      FCC      /P2ON/ Add new command for dble spac
03720 0220 00      FCB      0
03730 022C 1496   FDB      #1496
03740
03750 022E 50      FCC      /POFF/ Add new command print off
03760 0232 00      FCB      0
03770 0233 149A   FDB      #149A
03780
03790 0235 43      FCC      /C/ Replace 'CHANGE' with 'C'
03800 0236 00      FCB      0
03810 0237 0DCB   FDB      #0DCB
03820
03830 0239 47      FCC      /GF/ Add Go Format command
03840 023B 00      FCB      0
03850 023C A200   FDB      #A200
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03890 0359      ORG      #0359
03900
03910 0359 14C0   FDB      #14C0 New starting point for file
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03950 1492      ORG      #1492
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03970 1492 C6 01   PRON   LDAB B    #001
03980 1494 20 06   BRA      PSTO
03990 1496 C6 02   PR2ON  LDAB B    #002
04000 1498 20 02   BRA      PSTO
04010 149A C6 00   PROFF  LDAB B    #000
04020 149C D7 10   PSTO   STA B    #10
04030 149E 7E 3B3 JMP      #03B3
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04070 14A1 37      PRPTCH PSW B
04080 14A2 D6 10   LDAB B    #010
04090 14A4 C1 00   CMP B    #000
04100 14A6 27 03   BEQ      NOTPR
04110 14A8 BD A363 PUL B    PDELAY
04120 14AB 33      PUL B
04130 14AC 39      RTS
04140 14AD 33      NOTPR  JMP      #E1D1 Output to CR1 only
04150 14AE 7E E1D1
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A200 CE A3 1E 80 E0 7E D A2 C4 DE 97 DF 58 DE 99 DF
A210 5A CE 80 00 DF 2E 7E 2B 9B 2F 97 7F 00 2A BD
A220 A2 DA DE 3F 3F A4 00 08 81 09 2A 10 08 08 08 DF
A230 5B 20 F1 BD A2 C4 09 80 97 2F 20 E8 81 7E 27 5A
A240 81 2E 27 19 81 5E 27 E8 81 9C 27 A7 81 00 2A 1E
A250 20 B2 8A 0A 8D A3 45 20 15 E6 00 C1 20 2A 03 5F
A260 20 0C C1 39 2E 0A C1 30 2B 02 20 02 C6 20 DF 5B
A270 DE 2C A7 00 08 DF 2C 9C 2E 27 08 C1 20 2A DE
A280 2C E7 00 3F 20 E8 0A 00 81 20 27 17 DF 2C DE
A290 5B 09 A7 00 DF 3B DE 2C 20 EC DF 5B 7F 00 32 7F
A2A0 00 33 DE 2C 8D 2F 7D 00 32 27 3 8D A3 6A 8D 3F
A2B0 7E A2 1F DE 2C 8A 0A A7 00 A7 01 8A 0B A7 02 8D
A2C0 4E 7E 02 03 8D E1 AC 97 11 BD E0 35 97 2B 39 8A
A2D0 0A A7 00 8A 0B A7 01 A7 02 39 8A 10 C1 01 27 0A
A2E0 8A 0A 8D A1 9A 11 81 32 27 02 20 08 CE 80 00 DF
A2F0 2C 8D 41 7C 00 32 39 C6 50 00 2B 27 EF B1 43 6
A300 01 57 8A 20 5A 37 8D 3D 33 C1 00 27 DF 20 F5 CE
A310 80 00 A6 00 BD 2F 81 0D 27 03 08 20 F5 39 10 16
A320 4C 49 4E 45 20 46 4F 52 4D 41 54 20 2B 48 45 5B
A330 29 0A 0D 04 36 37 4F C6 50 A7 00 08 5A 26 FA 32
A340 33 CE 80 00 39 B1 0A 26 0E D6 2A C1 39 26 05 8D
A350 09 D7 2A 39 7C 00 2A BD 0A 39 36 8A 8C BD A3 63
A360 5F 32 39 DF 30 CE 80 1C 5F E7 01 C6 FF E7 00 C6
A370 04 E7 01 A7 00 C6 36 E7 01 C6 3E E7 01 E6 01 2A
A380 FC A6 00 DE 30 39 DE 2E DF 26 CE 80 00 DF 24 CE
A390 B1 00 DF 2B 96 2F 90 2D 16 73 00 33 7D 00 33 27
A3A0 1B 5D 27 5E DE 2C A6 01 09 DF 2C DE 26 B1 20 26
A3B0 04 A7 01 09 5A A7 01 09 DF 26 20 E5 5D 27 43 DE
A3C0 24 09 09 9C 2E 27 19 A6 02 7C 00 25 DE 2B 5D 27
A3D0 08 B1 20 26 04 A7 00 08 5A A7 00 08 DF 28 20 DF
A3E0 CE 80 00 C6 03 DB 27 D7 27 DF 24 CE B1 00 DF 2B
A3F0 DE 2B A6 00 08 DF 2B DE 24 A7 00 08 DF 24 CE 26
A400 2E EE 39 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01

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Patches for TSC Editor

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0200 7E 03 53 7E 03 83 7E E1 F6 7E 14 A1 7E 02 03 7E
0210 E1 D1 7F FF 41 00 12 D0 02 09 BE 43 4F 00 0F
0220 F3 90 4F 4E 00 14 92 50 32 4F 4E 00 14 9A 50 4F
0230 46 46 00 14 9A 43 00 0B CB 47 46 00 A2 00 A3 80
0250 49 4C 43 3A 04 BE 01 FF CE 14 D0 97 DF 99 CE
1490 03 FF C6 01 20 0A C6 02 20 02 C6 00 D7 10 7E 03
14A0 83 37 06 10 C1 00 27 05 8D A3 63 33 39 33 7E E1
14B0 D1 7E E1 D1 BD C9 7E 02 03 01 01 01 01 01 01

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THOSE WONDERFUL MEMORY-MAPPED VIDEO BOARDS

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One of the most important decisions facing the home computer user is the choice of an appropriate video terminal. Probably at least ninety-percent of the time spent at the computer will be done staring into the CRT. This is also the showcase for the uninitiated. Family and friends will judge the relative "value" of a home computer based on what they see on the screen. Like it or not, we must all become salesmen occasionally, if we want the home computer industry to grow.

Until recently, the choices for the 8088 user were limited to serial terminals. Unfortunately, the serial terminal adds a disproportionate cost onto the system -- especially when compared to mass-produced, all in a box computers. Also, serial terminals are usually limited to as-purchased features. Drastic changes to the format or attributes are at best, difficult if not impossible. A serial terminal was intended primarily for multiuser systems and systems where the CPU was physically distant from the user. This is not the case with most home systems, and we would like to minimize the impact of these basic problems.

To answer these problems, several manufacturers have combined CRT Controller integrated circuits with the concept of memory-mapping and have developed products that rival the performance or high cost terminals -- at a fraction of the price. One of the best features of this new breed of boards is their relative flexibility. Many of the features that were once considered to be hardware fixed are now directly under the control of software.

MEMORY-MAPPED VIDEO -- THE CONCEPT

The CRT output circuitry of every serial terminal contains something called a screen memory. This is ordinary RAM that contains an "image" of the text to be displayed on the CRT -- one byte for every character on the display. There is also some control logic that acts as a traffic cop for the rest of the system. It takes character data from the computer and, at the appropriate time, sticks them into the proper screen memory locations. It keeps track of the cursor, does scrolling and other visual attributes, plus generates all the timing, video and sync signals necessary to drive the CRT. While doing all this, the control logic must also provide addresses to the screen memory and character generating logic so that the proper sequence of data (or pixels) can be formed on the screen.

Regardless of what contortions the terminal must go through, the sole objective of the CPU is to get a byte of data into the proper place in the screen memory. Built into 8088 microcomputers is an ultimately simple method for doing just this: LDA and STA instructions. In order to use these instructions, the screen

memory must physically consist of RAM and be on the bus, addressable by the CPU. Thus we have now represented (mapped) screen memory as memory within the address space of the CPU.

There is one other immediate problem: the control logic also needs to address this portion of memory. To solve this, multiplexers are placed on the screen memory address and data lines. Memory contention logic must now be designed to resolve which one gets access to the memory -- the CPU or the control logic. This is not a trivial task and can lead to some very undesirable results if not properly handled.

CRT CONTROLLER IC'S

To construct the functions necessary to generate video output, it may take between 60 and 100 ordinary TTL chips. This chip count has been considerably reduced by CRT Controller (CRTC) chips that combine many of the necessary functions. 88 - 50 Buss manufacturers have designed complete video boards using either the MOTOROLA 6845 or the SMC 5827. These discussions will be limited to these chips. For reference, other chips in this category include the DPB350 (NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR), the 8275 (INTEL), and the 6845 (SIGNATEK).

To a great extent the design of the board, the functions that are available to the user, and their ease of use is dictated by the particular CRTC that is chosen. Some insight can be gained by first looking at the individual functions of the 6845 and the 5827 at the chip level. Refer to Table 1 which summarizes the salient features and to Figure 1 which is a general block diagram of a CRTC Video Board.

In Figure 1, all functions outside of the CRTC block must be provided by the video board designer. Within the block there are two other major differences: (1) the 6845 provides for directly connecting a light pen while the 5827 does not, and (2) the 5827 provides a programmable pipeline delay, a delay necessary to properly phase the video data with the blanking and cursor signals. 6845 users must provide this delay with external circuitry.

The remainder of the logical functions within the CRTC block are provided by both chips. But some of these functions have significant differences in their versatility and operation. For example, the 5827 has only a block cursor with no blinking capability. The 6845 has two blink rates, plus any portion of the cursor block can be filled in, by software, a raster line at a time.

The programmable registers can be roughly divided into two categories: format and timing registers, which are usually loaded once during initialization and operating registers, which may be frequently accessed and manipulated during operation. The 5827 requires less format and timing register space due to its smaller display format range. This is not really a disadvantage, as it is difficult to imagine anyone wanting to build an alphanumeric display that exceeds a 132 x 64 format. The 6845 has more operating registers due to the additional cursor and light pen features.

Memory addressing in the 6845 is linear, that is, all display locations are assumed to be a continuous string of memory. As far as software is concerned, this is not always the most efficient method. For example, when trying to implement a screen-oriented editor, functions such as insert/delete lines and characters are often considerably easier to code if the memory is organized on a column/row basis as in the 5827. The disadvantage to the column/row approach is that it is accomplished at the cost of memory usage efficiency (unless the line and row lengths happen to be a power of two).

Another feature that is now becoming increasingly popular in high line terminals is the so-called "soft scroll". This is where text scrolling is done on a raster line at a time basis giving a very pleasing roll up effect instead of jumping a line at a time. For users of the 5827, SMC has written an application note describing a simple circuit that can be added to provide soft scrolling. Unfortunately, this feature was not implemented on any of the 88-50 boards that used the 5827. I know of no easy way to implement this feature with the 6845.

It is also worth mentioning that the 5827 has a self loading feature which, at restart, will load all format and timing registers from an external PROM. This feature was primarily intended for terminals that lacked CPU support. When this feature is used the programmer no longer has control over the format and timing registers.

THE VIDEO BOARDS -- GENERAL OPERATION

At present, there are four memory-mapped video boards available for the 88-50 Buss that utilize a CRT Controller IC. Table II is a comparison chart that outlines the pertinent hardware features of each board. While this chart is far from perfect, it will serve as a starting point for discussing the features and capabilities of each board.

The general setup and operation with any of the four video boards is essentially the same. After address selection is made, the video board simply plugs into one of the 58-pin slots on the bus. The only external connection is a user-supplied cable and connector to the CRT monitor's video input. Remember, the board functions as an output device only -- no hardware is provided for keyboard input. It is up to the user to provide a keyboard, a keyboard input port, and a compatible character input routine.

Assuming the appropriate software is in place, a short initialization routine is activated upon power up. This is where the screen and cursor format is defined and the other CRTC registers brought to initial conditions. At this time the screen is also usually cleared and the system monitor program starts up, displaying a prompt character.

A special video character output routine, replacing OUTEE, now handles all writing to the screen and control functions. This is where the flexibility of the video boards really begins to shine. This routine can be written to emulate almost any terminal in town, from the dumbest right on up to the most intelligent. The video output routine is, of course, merely a convenience as it does all the mundane bookkeeping of cursor position, scrolling, etc. There is no good reason why an applications program cannot bypass this routine and load data directly into memory.

Used in this manner, a full-fledged terminal has now been emulated with a video board. At this point, the biggest difference the user will observe is the blinding speed of the display operation. It goes so fast that you will probably want to insert a delay until you get used to it.

HARDWARE

All of the boards come assembled and tested with the exception of the F & D version, which is bare board and documentation only. Each board was well laid out and constructed, and also presented a very good visual appearance. The F & D board is about 1/4 inch wider and higher than "standard" 88-50 size. The others were the usual dimensions.

Percom assembles nine of the larger chips, but flew solder the rest of the components to the board. Gimix and Snake Signal Broadcasting (SSB) socket all of the chips, and they even add a socket for the video cable. These two boards also have a green epoxy solder mask and gold plated bus connectors. SSB even goes as far as to silk screen the component side of the board with all of the component labels. Quality Control was apparently on the ball, too, for I could not detect a single manufacturing flaw in any of the boards I examined.

THE CHARACTER CLOCK COMPROMISE

About the only thing that is not programmable on the boards is the character clock rate. The character clock is the amount of time allotted, per character, during horizontal retrace. In other words, this determines the width of each character plus any space in between characters. It is obtained by dividing down the dot clock (which clocks out the individual pixels).

Eight dot clocks wide is a convenient choice for a character clock if one also wishes to use a graphics character generator. In this way, one byte can be clocked out in graphics mode and not leave blank spaces between characters on the screen. Both Gimix and SSB do this, using a character cell size of 8 x 16 (8 pixels wide by 16 raster lines deep) in which they place a 5 x 7 character. The characters, of course, are not as well defined as the more dense 7 x 9 character generator would produce. However, it is the overall appearance of the display that really counts, and a 5 x 7 character inside an 8 x 16 cell produces a total result that is quite pleasing to the eye and very readable.

F & D has opted to design in more character definition, with a 7 x 9 character placed inside an 8 x 12 cell. To my eye, this method does not leave enough space between characters. Also, the Aspect (Height to Width) Ratio, in non-interlaced mode, deviates too far from "normal" to give a comfortable effect. However, when I connected this board into a very high quality monitor and used the interlaced mode, the display was considerably improved and quite acceptable. Then again, this effect may not bother you in the slightest.

Meanwhile, Percom has also decided to use a 7 x 9 character generator. But notice that each character is placed in a larger 10 x 14 cell size. This results in probably the nicest looking alphanumeric display of all. Well defined characters combined with the wider spacing total up to an outstanding display. To accomplish this, unfortunately, a couple of sacrifices had to be made. First, the larger cell size limits the display to about 80 x 16 in the non-interlaced mode. Second, in order to fill up a 10 wide cell with 8 graphics bits, the bits had to be doubled up. In the character graphics mode only the first five bits are used each bit being clocked out twice. This effectively cuts down on the horizontal resolution. A small price to pay if you are predominantly interested in an alphanumeric display.

While the character cell width is fixed by the hardware, the height of each cell is programmable. You can add space between each line on the display in increments of one scan line. The minimum height of a character cell will be determined by the particular character generator used.

Going back to the horizontal format for a moment, there is one other subtlety worth mentioning. Once the horizontal dot clock frequency is chosen, this automatically fixes the maximum line length. For example, suppose we initialize the board for an 88 x 24 format and then, for some reason, we wish to change this to, say, 64 x 16. We can certainly do this, but what happens to the line length? The line length, being fixed, is still 88 characters or so long but only 64 of them are displayed. We do not get 84 characters spread out into the same space that the 88 characters used to take up! In order to do that, we must change the dot clock crystal.

THE OVERWORKED BIT

To display a character in normal operation, it is only necessary to store the ASCII code for that character into the appropriate location in screen memory. As ASCII is only a seven bit code, this leaves one bit laying around to play with. The common approach taken by F & D, SSB, and Percom is to use this extra bit to control graphics mode OR visual attributes on a character by character basis. Thus you can, via hardware jumpers, opt for the ability to select either the Graphics ROM, inverse video, or half intensity simply by setting the eighth bit in the ASCII character. Note that once one of these options is selected, the other two are not available.

Gimix had a slightly more complex problem to resolve. The three different character generators, plus inverse video and half intensity, on their board could not be selected with just one bit. So, while the other manufacturers took the straightforward design approach, Gimix had to devise an alternate method to program the board.

THE GIMIX "CONTROL PORT" CONCEPT

In a "standard" design approach, the CRIC registers are just placed on the bus and given an address, thus allowing the programmer direct access to the chip. Gimix, however, designed in a four address Control Port between the CRIC and the 88-50 Bus line. All Control and attribute functions are programmed through this four byte Control Port; the user does not have direct access to the CRIC registers.

Control Port 0 is the control register with each bit serving a unique function. Some of the functions are enable/disable the memory, select mode, blank the display, and turn cursor on, off, or blink/steady (Gimix added a cursor flashing circuit to their board). Bit 7 of Port 0 has a nice feature — it is high during vertical retrace time. The CPU can poll this bit allowing screen updates with no splatter.

Control Port 1 is a dual purpose register. Its function set by bit 2 of Port 0. During normal operation, it will be selected as the scroll register. Its other function is what Gimix has termed the "Mode Programming Port". Through this port an onboard 16 byte RAM is loaded. This allows the user to preprogram up to 16 unique combinations for attribute and character generator selection (instead of just one). The combinations are then triggered depending upon which "group" the ASCII character falls into (control, numeric, upper or lower case), and which "slot" (the seventh ASCII bit).

Ports 2 and 3 are the X,Y position of the cursor. Gimix has included two pages of charts that completely define the function and programming of all four ports.

While the Gimix Control Ports handle the usual operating register functions, what about the format registers? It seems that Gimix has taken advantage of the self programming feature of the 5027 CRIC. They have added a special PROM (no info included) to automatically load the format registers on power up/reset. Thus, the user no longer has control of the screen format — it comes up 80 x 24 until a different PROM is installed. Be sure that your monitor can handle an 80 x 24 format, if you elect to buy the Gimix board.

THE MEMORY CONTENTION PROBLEM

As was noted before, the CRIC must continually address the screen memory to provide refresh data for the display. It would also be nice if the CPU could write to the screen memory so that new characters could be displayed. Multiplexers in the address lines prevent the obvious failure from occurring. But now the big question becomes — when do we switch the multiplexers?

If the designer simply goes ahead and says the CPU always gets priority, then a very sticky problem occurs. Suppose the processor decides to update memory during an active raster scan, when the screen really needs data from the screen memory to maintain refresh. The memory is switched and now the wrong data (as far as the screen is concerned) appears on the bus! Result? The wrong data gets clocked out and a very annoying snow effect splatters the screen. This is also called, among other things, access flicker.

There are a couple of things a designer can do to alleviate this effect. First, a latch can be added on the data bus between the screen memory and the character generator. This will insure that the correct data will stay put for at least one character time. This usually helps but is not, in itself, sufficient. The next step is to provide a circuit that actually blanks the screen during CPU access times (this ends up happening for only a small portion of one raster line). The rationale being that no data is better than the wrong data, which turns out to be entirely valid.

Percom, SSB, and Gimix all attack the problem in this manner. I viewed the display generated by each of these boards under various CPU access conditions and could detect no erroneous splatter on the screen. F & D, however, did not take either of the precautions. As a result, considerable flicker appears on the screen. Fortunately, there is a rather simple addition that can be made to almost completely eliminate the problem. The necessary modifications are outlined in Figure 2.

Another way to avoid any flicker is to give the CPU priority but only update the screen memory during the vertical retrace periods. This slows the CPU down somewhat, but it is certainly a viable solution for alphanumeric applications. Gimix has the only board that brings the retrace signal out to the bus.

The best solution to the problem is to take advantage of the two-phase clock generated by 68XX systems. The trick is to let the CRIC address the screen memory on one phase and let the CPU use the other phase. Total transparency is thus achieved. The main drawback to this method is that it requires the CPU clock to be synchronized with the CRIC clock. Apparently the problem is essentially insurmountable — nobody uses it.

DOCUMENTATION

Along with the video board, each manufacturer provides a User's Guide. These manuals cannot possibly include complete information on all aspects and applications of memory-mapped video boards. Nonetheless, they all provide sufficient information to successfully get up and running. In content and readability, I found all of them to be roughly on par.

A schematic and parts list is included with each manual with SSB and F & D also adding a short circuit description. F & D, being the only non-assembled board, comes with two pages of brief assembly instructions.

SOFTWARE

Any of the video board hardware, of course, is completely helpless without software to back it up. As a bare minimum you will need an initialization routine and a character output routine. On power up or reset, the initialization routine programs all the CRT registers and starts you out in the home position with a cleared screen. The character output routine takes the place of OUTEE — it displays any printable ASCII character in the screen, moves the cursor appropriately, and handles scrolling the display. It also must be able to recognize and respond to at least the most common control characters. All manufacturers provide, with some minor variations, at least one good example of each of these routines.

What remains to be done now is to patch these routines into your existing operating system. Usually this will mean burning a new EPROM that has been rewritten to include these routines — or at least resector addresses appropriately. I rewrote the output routine to include a lookahead command jump table. I can now load additional functions into RAM as the need arises.

As mentioned before, one real forte of video boards is that their functions can be dramatically altered simply by adding the appropriate program. To demonstrate this, the manufacturers have included some clever examples of additional functions that can be added to the basic program.

F & D, for example, adds an escape sequence to their character output routine that includes some rather nice graphics commands. It is designed to work around their optional Graphics EPROM which contains enough special characters to emulate TRS-80 graphics (128 x 48 block resolution). Using about 558 additional bytes, they have added commands to set, reset, or insert any block by inputting X, Y coordinates and a routine to draw a line between any two X, Y points. They have also included a short key stick input routine for the onboard PIA. At additional cost, F & D has available a program they call FADBUG-11MS. This is a completely MIBUG compatible monitor with video drivers included. It fits very comfortably into a 2714 EPROM and can be plugged right into the BUTPC HP-A2 processor board.

Percom includes their WINDEX program which, as written, will emulate an elementary terminal in an 80 x 16 format. As a demonstration, Percom also includes Cliff Rushing's version of the new famous "Game of Life". It requires less than 3k of memory and it takes about six seconds per generation (4888 version).

Smek Signal Broadcasting has come up with what is easily the most extensive video driver of all. In addition to the bare-bones necessities, they have written in escape sequences and control character functions that really begin to show the potential of programmable video boards. There are 15 escape sequences and 10 control character commands. Some of the more notable are:

- Set or clear a protected field on the screen.
- Position the cursor to any X, Y location.
- Read character at the cursor position.
- Set a delay count to allow any desired scroll rate.
- Turn graphics characters on/off.

The entire program comes already installed in an onboard 2700 EPROM. All you have to do is vector to it.

The Cinix board comes with a 450 byte listing of their Stand Alone Video Driver (SVD). As is, this program provides the basic terminal functions with a couple of interesting features. The "bell" control character toggles a latch at a programmable rate. The latch can be hooked up to a speaker to provide an audible beep. Their KEYIN input routine also has a novel twist: The cursor is normally off — calling this routine turns the cursor on, calls INEE, turns the cursor off, and then returns.

Cinix's biggest contribution, however, is an outstanding program called MAKEHAM. This is a 4k interactive program for creating character sets for use on their programmable character generator. This program is cursor based with 21 commands that allow one to easily design and edit any special character. A program of this type is almost indispensable for any serious work with a programmable character generator.

Unfortunately, Cinix does not include any example programs to illustrate the potential use of their unique Control Parts. I think this area deserves a couple of clever demonstration programs to tickle the user's imagination.

GRAPHICS CAPABILITIES

The "Graphics Mode" feature claimed by each manufacturer is really a misnomer. None of the boards are capable, as is, of producing a pixel controlled graphics display. What they do produce is more aptly termed semigraphic or block graphics.

In a pixel graphics display, one bit in screen memory is used to control one pixel on the screen. However, all of the boards described here are oriented towards alphanumeric displays (in which character generator logic assumes responsibility for moving the individual pixels). This considerably limits our control over the display area. At this point, the best that can be done is to define another character set that contains a set of special shapes and figures. The shape can be any combination of dots inside the basic character cell. With a cleverly designed character set and a little imagination, some amazing things can be done with a semigraphic mode.

F & D, Percom, and Cinix all include steering logic and space for an optional EPROM character generator. You can select between the two on a character-by-character basis, thus allowing alpha-

numerics and semigraphic simultaneously. SSB chose to combine the ASCII and special character generators into one EPROM. A 2716 comes standard on their board — it contains 96 ASCII characters and 32 special graphics figures. That same socket can also be jumper configured to accept a 2732 (not supplied) which accounts for the SSB claim of 256 character capability.

Unfortunately, no matter how carefully you design a special character set, Murphy says that the next program you write will require at least one character that you do not have. Cinix has solved this problem by also including a 2k programmable character generator. With 2k,128 special symbols can be created at a time. In my opinion, this outstanding feature should become a standard for any video board.

THE CRT MONITOR

Here is where the proverbial "weak link" will become most obvious. Even the best designed video board cannot completely overcome the inherent deficiencies in a low-line CRT monitor. The larger format, professional-looking displays that these video boards are capable of producing will require commensurate performance from the CRT monitor. Marginal bandwidth, low persistence phosphor, poor vertical and horizontal linearity, and uneven focus are all factors of the CRT that can add up to a disappointing end result.

As display appearance is quite subjective, you should decide for yourself what is acceptable and what is not. If you already own a low-line monitor be prepared to accept some compromises in display format. With most of the video boards, you can simply reprogram a larger format if and when you upgrade to a better CRT monitor. If you are about to purchase a monitor, I suggest that you do not pinch pennies in this area. If at all possible arrange to see a demonstration before you buy.

INTO THE BACKSTRETCH

In this article, I have presented an overview starting with serial terminals and proceeding through CRT's and the memory-mapped video concept. For now the overview had to stop with a look at some of the presently available hardware. In the larger sense, any one of the video boards will provide approximately the same results when used in alphanumeric terminal applications. Thus, I zeroed in only on the differences among the boards. Some of them, admittedly, were only fine shades of differences, or highly subjective differences.

After digesting everything up to this point, the ultimate question must now be posed — "Which one do I buy?" If the technical aspects have not already answered this question for you, other factors such as cost, manufacturer's credibility, reliability and personal preference, etc., must be used to tip the scales. So, to wrap up this part of the article, I will plunge in head first and offer some of my personal observations on each board.

F & D represents the clear cut choice for those on a limited budget and with an insatiable lust for tinkering. Some clever shopping can bring this board home for around \$550. But remember this is parts cost alone — you will still have a considerable time investment in procuring parts, assembly, and checkout. If you go for it, it will cost you at least an additional \$40 to have F & D straighten out your indiscretions. It is a little rough around the edges, but it works just fine. Cottage industries do not usually have the advantages inherent in a full-time company that are necessary to turn out a top-notch product. However you are also not paying for all of these, sometimes nebulous, frills.

The Percom board has two big advantages. It has the lowest price tag of the all assembled and tested boards, and it produces the nicest looking alphanumeric display. On the other hand, it has the least amount of available options and only half the graphics mode resolution of the other boards presented. Also, should anything go wrong, troubleshooting will be more difficult due to lack of a fully-escorted board. For those still on a budget, inclined more towards using than building, and primarily interested in alphanumeric applications, the Percom board should represent the best value received for the dollar spent.

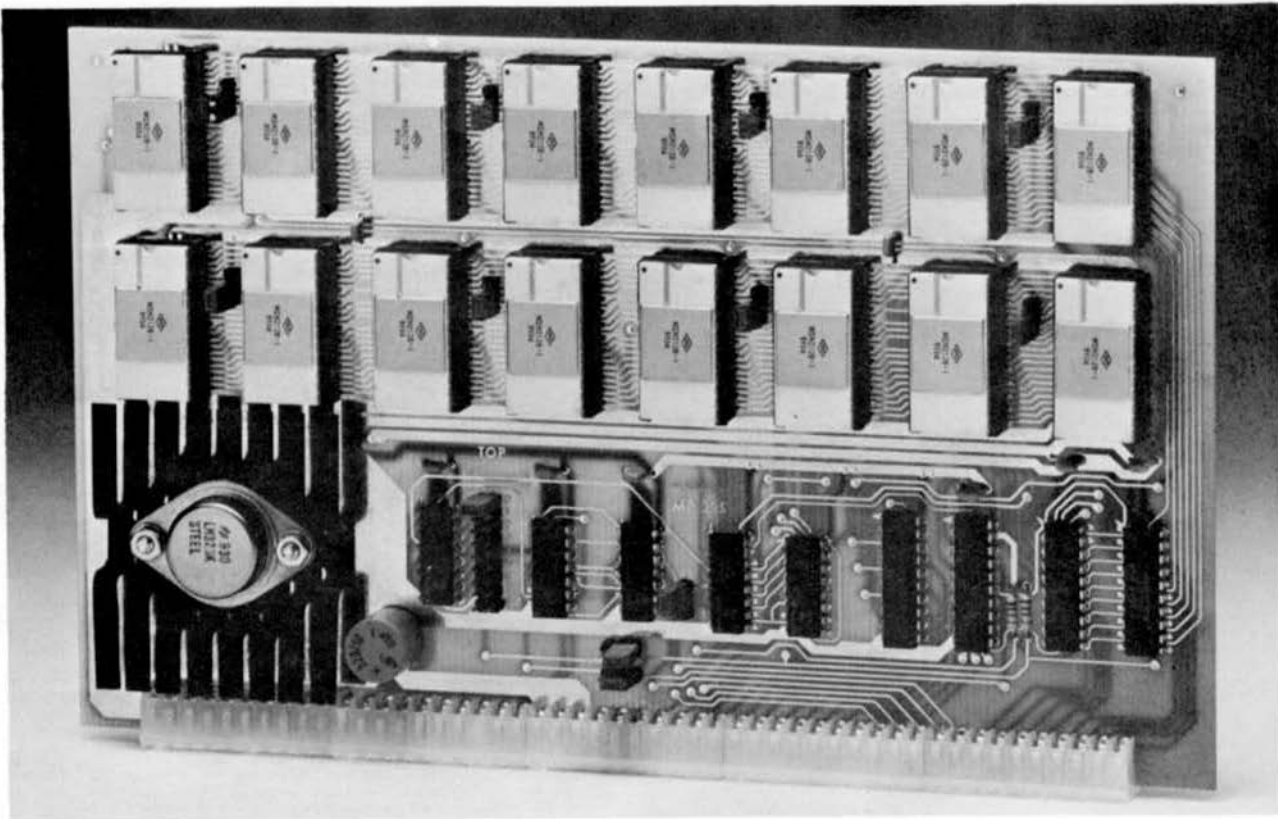
Cinix leaps us into another category altogether. This is definitely a commercial quality board with a slightly less than commercial price tag. This board is definitely not for the budget minded. However, its wealth of features is perhaps sufficient to sway many into splashing in this area and shoving elsewhere. The programmable character generator alone is very tempting. Remember though, the Cinix board will probably require a higher quality CRT monitor to be most effective. The one feature I do not like is the self boot up of the format registers. I feel these registers should be left under the control of the user.

Quality-wise, the SSB board equals, perhaps even surpasses, the Cinix board. The circuit design is extremely sound, but rather straightforward. The only unique circuit feature is that the video drivers are included in firmware on the board. Although these drivers provide some powerful functions, the same functions can be programmed into any of the video boards. I feel this board could use some of the innovative features normally associated with higher quality, higher priced products.

The scale tipper for SSB would have to be manufacturer credibility. Of all the manufacturers I contacted, SSB proved to be the most helpful with the least amount of predding. They were the only ones who volunteered to lend an evaluation board for this article — and did not even complain when the board was returned four weeks late! I have no doubt that SSB would not only provide a reliable product but also plenty of prompt and courteous backup service.

WHAT'S NEXT?

As good as these video boards are, state of the art hardware in industry has already outstripped their capabilities. Some of this technology is even now trickling down into the newer home



UNIVERSAL STATIC MEMORY

- ★ 32K bytes - ROM, RAM, EPROM or a combination
- ★ SS-50 A&C compatible with 16 and 20 bit address decoding
- ★ Compatible with all SWTPC 6800 and 6809 computers
- ★ 2.0 MHz - 5.0 Volts only

This is the most versatile memory card you can buy. Our S-32 may be populated with up to 32K of static RAM, EPROM, or ROM, or any 4K block combination of these that you may desire. Any 5-volt 2716 pinout compatible memory may be used in this card. Any 4K block of memory may be jumper block programmed for RAM or ROM use. This feature makes this the ideal memory for those process control applications that require a mixture of ROM and RAM

memory. The board is fully compatible with all SWTPC 6800 and 6809 computers.

The power requirement for the board is only 1.75 amps at 5.0 volts with a full 32K of RAM installed.

S-32 Circuit card only	\$124.50
S3216 with 16K of RAM	\$375.00 ea.
S3232 with 32K of RAM	\$575.00 ea.



SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION
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(512) 344-0241

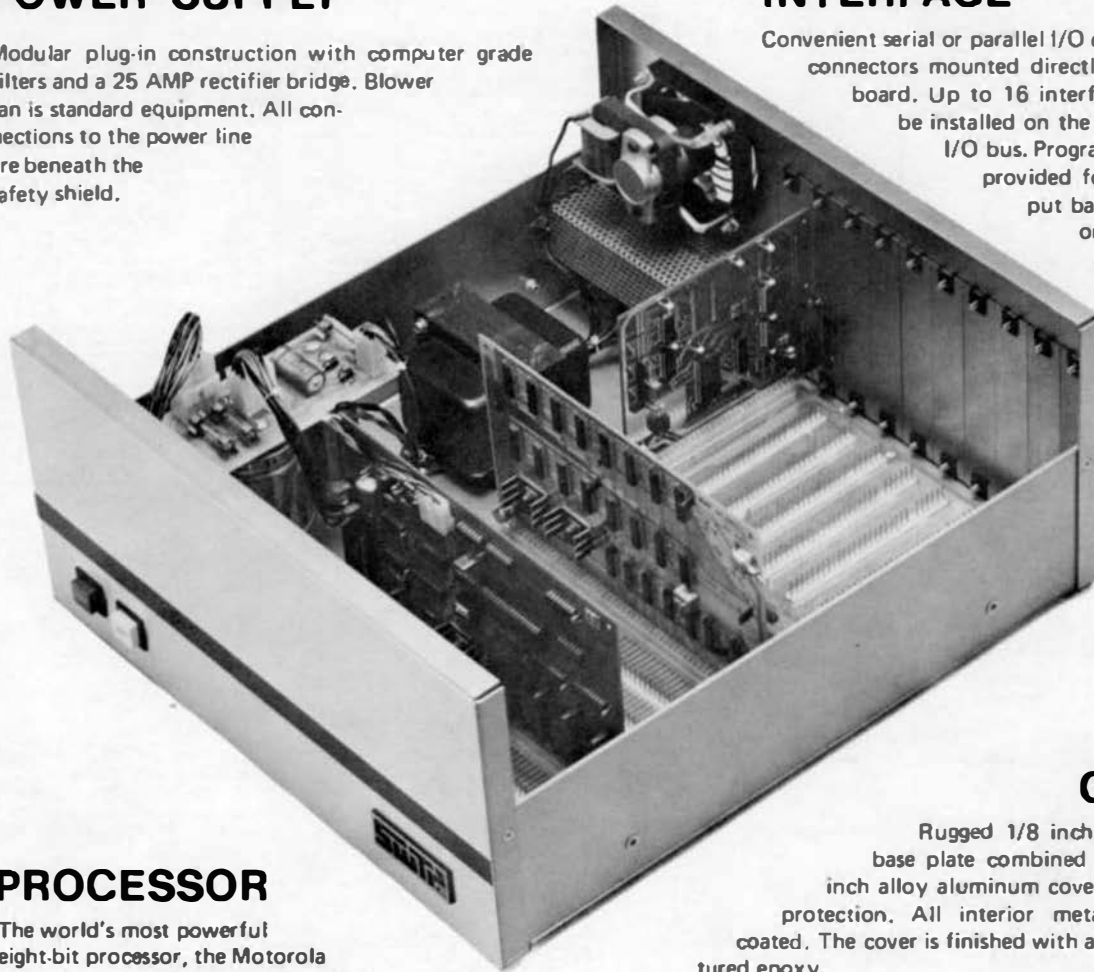
WE HAVE A 6809 FOR YOU

POWER SUPPLY

Modular plug-in construction with computer grade filters and a 25 AMP rectifier bridge. Blower fan is standard equipment. All connections to the power line are beneath the safety shield.

INTERFACE

Convenient serial or parallel I/O cards have DB-25 connectors mounted directly on the circuit board. Up to 16 interface devices may be installed on the address decoded I/O bus. Programming strips are provided for input and output baud rate selection on each port. All outputs are fully buffered.



PROCESSOR

The world's most powerful eight-bit processor, the Motorola MC6809, plus 2 K byte monitor ROM that is 2716 EPROM compatible and full buffering on all output lines. Built-in multiuser capability, just add I/O cards to operate a multi-terminal system.

CABINET

Rugged 1/8 inch alloy aluminum base plate combined with a solid 1/8 inch alloy aluminum cover for unsurpassed protection. All interior metal is conversion coated. The cover is finished with a super tough textured epoxy.

MEMORY— You can purchase the computer with either 8K bytes of RAM memory (expandable to 56K), or with the "S" series 64K bytes of RAM memory expandable to 768 K.

PERIPHERALS— The wide range of peripheral hardware that is supported by the 6809 includes: dot matrix printers (both 80 and 132 column), IBM Electronic 50 typewriter, daisy wheel printers, 5-inch floppy disk system, 8-inch floppy disk systems and a 16 megabyte hard disk.

SOFTWARE— The amount of software support available for the 6809 is incredible when you consider that it was first introduced in June, 1979. In addition to the FLEX9 operating system, we have a Text Editor, Mnemonic Assembler, Debug, Sort-Merge, BASIC, Extended BASIC, MultiUser BASIC, FORTRAN, PASCAL and P!LOT.

69/K Computer Kit with 8K bytes of memory	\$ 660.00
69/A Assembled Computer with 8K bytes of memory	\$ 799.00
09/ Assembled Computer "S" series with 64K bytes of memory	\$1,835.00



SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION
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computers. What needs to be developed now is a video board with simultaneous alpha, semi-graphics, and full graphics capability, plus character by character control of ALL attributes. The graphics should be high speed, have resolution of at least 256 x 192, be flicker free, and have optional gray scale or color capability. Annotated and animated graphics displays were a dream yesterday, are a reality today, and will be a necessity tomorrow.

Preparing for things to come, part two of this article will tackle graphics. Easy and inexpensive modifications will be given that will convert the F & D board into a 256 x 192 pixel graphics board. A set of machine language graphics drivers will also be presented that will allow you to begin immediately writing some graphics applications programs.

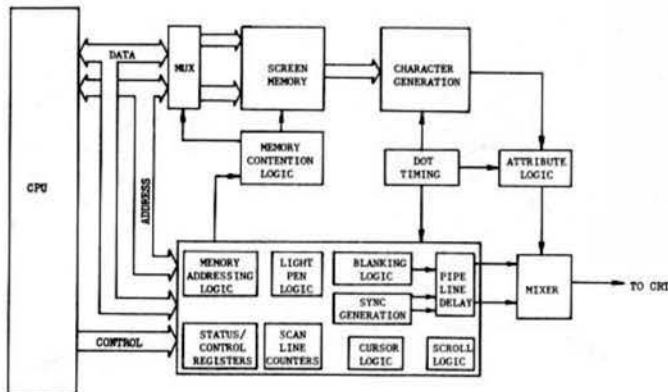


FIGURE 1. Memory-Mapped Video Board -- Block Diagram

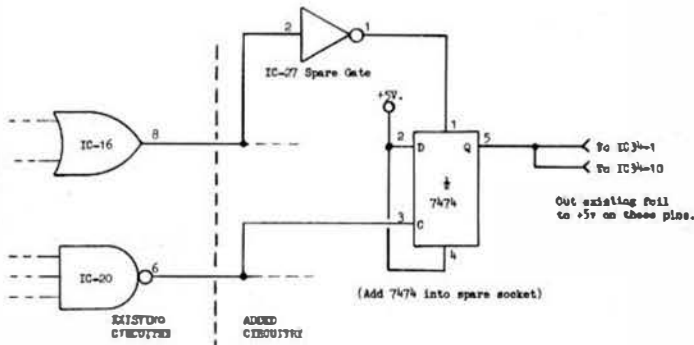


FIGURE 2. Modification to F & D Board to minimize access flicker.

FEATURES	MOTOROLA 6845	SMC 5027
Power Supplies	40 +5 +12VDC	40 +5, +12 +10VDC
Dot Timing Oscillator	External	External
Interface Operation	Yes, 2 modes	Yes
Monitor Interface	None/vert sync Composite video	Yes No
Display Format Range	1 - 256 1 - 128 1 - 32	20 - 128 1 - 64 1 - 16
Memory Address Range	16k bytes	4k bytes
Memory Addressing Method	Linear	Row/Column
Internal Cursor Register and Mode Control	Blink, block, and underline	Block only
Light Pen Register	Yes	No
Address Scrolling	Yes	Yes
Other Visual Attributes	None	None
Memory Contention Logic	None	None
Video Pipeline Control	No	Yes
Programmable Registers	4 Cursor Pos (2) Start Addr (2) Light Pen (2) Cursor Fill (2)	2 4 Cursor Pos (2) Scroll (1)

TABLE 1. Summary of CRT Controller features.

FEATURE	F & D ASSOC.	PERCOM	CINIX	SMOKE SIGNAL
CRT Controller Used	6845	5027	5027	6845
Retail Price	(See Text)	\$160	\$460	\$395
Character Cell Size	8 x 12	10 x 14	8 x 10	8 x 10
Primary Char. Gen. Matrix	7 x 9	7 x 9	5 x 7	5 x 7
Other Char. Generators	Yes (1708/16)	Yes (1708/16)	Yes (2716)	no
Programmable Char. Gen.	No	No	Yes (128 Chars)	No
On Board Screen RAM	4k bytes	2k bytes	2k bytes	2k bytes
Screen RAM Addressing	Any 4k Block	16-CA, 00-ur E8	Any 2k Block	Any 4k Block
Other Addresses Req'd	25k bytes of X5XX or X7XX	None	4 Bytes of any 4 Byte Boundary	None
Video Cable Socket	No	No	Yes	Yes
Gold-Plated Bus connectors	-----	No	Yes	Yes
Spony Solder Mask	No	No	Yes	Yes
Silk-Screened Labels	No	No	No	Yes
Dot Clock Frequency	14.318 MHz	16,000 MHz	15,091 MHz	17,055 MHz
I.C. Count	37	30	36	31
User I/O Port	3 PIA	None	None	None
Separate Sync & Video Out	Yes	Yes	Composite Only	Composite Only
Display Formats Available	Programmable	Programmable	80 x 24 Only	Programmable
Visible Access Flicker	Yes	No	No	No
Video Driver Software	Source Listing	Source Listing	Source Listing	On Board EPROM
Memory Contention Logic	CPU Priority	CPU Priority	CPU Priority & Vert. Retrace	CPU Priority
Attributes Available	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM	Selected by control Port (See Text)	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM

TABLE II. Video Board Comparison Chart

July 22, 1981

Mr. Don Williams
"68" Micro Journal
3018 Main St.
Hixson, TN, 37343

Dear Don:

Frank Hogg Laboratory, Inc., is pleased to announce that A.C.S. Jackson is our "exclusive" dealer in South Africa.

Orders originating from the South Africa area only can be sent to:

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Telephone: 778-8288
788-2773

Thank you for the opportunity of helping us to welcome Guy on board.

Very truly yours,

Frank Hogg
Frank Hogg
President

PH:hh

FRANK HOGG LABORATORY, INC

130 SPARTAN PLAZA • SYRACUSE NY 13210
2161 476-7990

te hni al systems
consultants, inc.

Dear Don,

In response to the mail you have been receiving, concerning Unifit, I let me try to answer a few questions.

Unifit does NOT require program to be relocatable. Programs also do NOT have to be re-entrant. I think these misconceptions have come about due to the requirements of microware's US-9 level 1 which does require fully position independent code. I do not currently know what the requirements of US-9 level 11 are.

Another question which is often asked concerns Flex[™] software compatibility with Uniflex[™]. At the assembly language level, programs are definitely incompatible. It is certainly possible to convert Flex[™] software to run under Uniflex[™], and essentially involves rewriting the I/O sections of the program. We are currently playing with a version of Flex[™] which runs on a host under Uniflex[™] which would allow one to run any Flex[™] software with the exception of the Flex[™] printer spawner capabilities.

We are also working on a special version of Flex[™] which will run on a computer system configured to run Uniflex[™]. Currently, the host and several machine (adapter) must be changed to switch a system between Flex[™] and Uniflex[™]. This special version of Flex[™] will allow one to load and run Flex[™] on the Uniflex[™] system without any changes. The only limitations in this version of Flex[™] are that printer spawling will not be available and there will be no hard disk drivers.

Translating other software between Flex[™] and Uniflex[™], such as CASC or PASCAL source files is a simple matter. Any of these programs will run unmodified or will require only minor modifications to run. Uniflex[™] is provided with a utility which will copy Flex[™] files from a Flex[™] disk onto a Uniflex[™] disk. We will very shortly make available a utility which copies files the other way, i.e. Uniflex[™] to Flex[™].

We have been receiving many questions concerning upcoming Uniflex[™] support software. Some of the programs to be released include: Relocating Assembler and Linking Loader, Extended Utility Package, AS/10 Standard (ULINK 7), and a full specification C Compiler. Software in the works for release over the next twelve months includes: Screen-Created Word Processing Package, IBM Compiler, ASH Compiler, various language loading packages, as well as several surprises. Uniflex[™] has been extremely popular and we will be supporting it quite heavily in the upcoming months. Many of the above mentioned programs will also be available for 6809 Flex[™].

P.O. Box 2570 • 1208 Kent Avenue • West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 • (317) 463-2502



MICROWARE.

Microware Systems Corporation
5825 Grand Avenue, Box 8865, Oak View, Illinois 60451
312-799-8844

July 24, 1981

Don Williams
68 Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Road
Hixson, TN 37343

Dear Don,

Thanks for sending me a copy of Dave Myberg's letter. I found his comments most interesting and typical of many questions that have been asked of us regarding compatibility of "old" 6800 and 6809 software on OS-9.

It is true that it is mandatory for assembly language programs written for both OS-9 Level One and OS-9 Level Two to be position-independent code (PIC). There are several good reasons for this.

First, it allows OS-9 to use software memory management on smaller (less than 64k) machines that don't have hardware memory management.

Second, it permits two or more programs or software modules to be loaded into memory at the same time without overlaying each other. For example, both an editor and assembler program can be co-resident without the need to reassemble one or the other. This lets you load and use several programs in memory without time consuming disk operations.

Third, it makes it possible for two or more users to "share" the same physical copy of a program or program without the need to load additional copies. This can reduce the overall system memory requirements considerably. This is why a 56K OS-9 system can run several Basic users without "swapping".

PIC is not required for shuffling memory around on a moment-by-moment basis as Dave outlined. It is physically impossible to do so because the 6809 keeps absolute addresses on its stack. It is required so OS-9 can initially load programs into any memory space not already in use by something else.

The requirement to use PIC on OS-9 is not costly in terms of program size or speed, thanks to the 6809's PC-relative addressing modes. Old programs have to be edited to change JMP instructions to LARAs, etc. These programs have to be edited anyway because the interfaces to the operating system are considerably different in OS-9 and Uniflex than in Flex, for example.

PIC is mandatory on OS-9 Level One systems because all tasks reside in the same address space. However, in OS-9 Level Two each task has its own address space so non-PIC code can be executed under controlled circumstances. Therefore it is possible that a "Flex-adaptor" subsystem, as Dave suggested, could be written for OS-9 Level Two, but not for Level One. The "Flex-adaptor" could probably handle many Flex programs as-is, with the notable exception of those programs that interface directly to I/O devices or the physical disk structure. I should mention that Microware has no plans to offer this kind of adaptor for Flex, DOS, or any other OS at this time.

Is conversion an unfair burden to impose on those persons who have a large library of software written for 6800/6809 Flex, DOS-68, etc.? I don't think so. The program modifications required are usually not that imposing, and we offer OS-9 software tools which make conversion jobs easier. For example, using our Macro Text Editor (which is really an interactive string processing language) you can create a library of editing procedures that will do much of the

conversion automatically. And the OS-9 Assembler has special capabilities for production of PIC programs (it even prints warning messages on non-PIC instruction lines).

What do you get in exchange for your efforts? OS-9 is friendlier, easier to use, faster, more reliable, better documented, and has much, much more capability than other 6800 or 6809 operating systems.

This is not the first time, nor will it be the last time, that the conversion problem will confront us because we all use the products of a rapidly developing and changing technology. My advice is to anticipate and prepare for change. What will everybody do when the 68000 chip (and its successors) cost \$10 each? The conversion from the 6809 to the 68000 is more complex than the conversion from the 6800 to the 6809 because the 6809 uses a superset of 6800 instructions, but the 68000 has a much different instruction set than the 6809.

Probably the wisest course is to write both application and system software in high-level languages (especially using Pascal and C compilers) which are more portable from CPU to CPU. This has not been possible before but the new breed of languages (such as the OS-9 Pascal compiler) let you do those things that previously were only possible or reasonable to do in assembly language. This will protect your software investment in the future. Software written for OS-9 in PASCAL, BASIC09, C, COBOL, etc., will execute on the forthcoming 68000 versions without conversion.

There is no better time than today to "bite the bullet" and switch over. The world in general (including the 68XX community) is rapidly climbing aboard the UNIX bandwagon for many good reasons. Almost every new micro and mini operating system being written today is based on UNIX, so by converting to OS-9 now you'll be compatible for a long, long time.

That's my two cents worth, Don. I hope that my comments will be of value to Dave and everyone else who has hesitated to enjoy the pleasures of the 6809 because of fear of conversion hassles.

Warmest Regards,

Ken Kaplan

Ken Kaplan
Microware



**technical systems
consultants, inc.**

P.O. Box 2570 • 1208 Kent Avenue • West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 • (317) 463-2502

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT Uniflex[™] Basic Version 2

Version 2 of Uniflex Basic contains several features not found in Version 1. Most of these are enhancements suggested by our customers. We are grateful to them for their suggestions. This document summarizes the new features of Basic 2 and also lists some of its drawbacks.

Added Features

The most significant addition to Basic is the statement editor command. This command allows the user to change an existing statement in the Basic program without having to retype the entire statement. In order to make the editor even more useful, Basic has been modified so that if it detects an error when a statement is being typed or loaded from a disk file (unbalanced parentheses, for example), the erroneous statement is changed into a remark. The user may then use the editor to correct the statement and not have to retype the line or reload the file. If this occurs when loading from a disk file, the loading process will not stop when such errors are detected, but it will proceed until the entire file is loaded, reporting errors as it goes. All of the offending lines will have been converted to remarks so that the user may then correct them with the editor.

The "fre(0)" function was not very useful in Basic 1. In Basic 2, this function has been replaced by the "mem(0)" function. This function returns the number of bytes currently being consumed by Basic. Included in this number is the size of Basic itself, its run-time variables and stack, as well as any space used by the user's program and data.

A new string constant "term\$" is available which is always equal to the terminal number associated with Basic. This number is a string with no leading or trailing spaces.

A "cd" statement is available which allows the program to change directories while running.

Under Basic 1, the only way that one Basic program could pass information to a program in which it chained was through a disk file. In Basic 2, it is possible for programs to declare an area as being "common". Strings may be declared in this common area with a form of the "field" statement, and values stored in these strings with the "iset" and "reset" statements. Integer and floating point values are stored in these strings by using "iset" or "reset" in conjunction with the "convert" functions.

Drawbacks

The additional features of Basic 2 do not come without a price. Basic 2 is somewhat larger than Basic 1, so that if a user had a program which

barely fit in memory with Basic 1, it may not fit with Basic 2. The most serious drawback is that the "compiled" form of Basic programs is significantly different between Basic 1 and Basic 2. Basic 2 cannot run programs that have been "compiled" under Basic 1. Similarly, Basic 1 cannot run programs "compiled" by Basic 2. This also holds true for the UNIFLEX Basic Precompiler. Basic 2 will only run programs that have been compiled under version 2 of the Precompiler. We are sorry to say that the changes in the "compiled" format are so major that it is not possible to write a conversion program to convert from Basic 1 to Basic 2. All programs will have to be recompiled under Basic 2 or Basic Precompiler 2. We realize that this is an inconvenience, especially to those who sell applications programs in "compiled" form. However, we feel that the enhancements are worth it.

Basic 2 will become the "standard" UNIFLEX Basic and will be the only version that we sell. It is now available as an update under our usual UNIFLEX update procedures. As long as it does not become an excessive burden, we will attempt to maintain Basic 1 along with Basic 2, so if you do not want to convert to Basic 2 you may request updates for Basic 1. However, maintenance on Basic 1 will not be renewed when your current maintenance agreement expires.

Please remember that you must also upgrade your Basic Precompiler (if you have one) when you upgrade your Basic.

NEWSRELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 1981

MICROCOMPUTER LINE NOW AVAILABLE UNDER GSA CONTRACT

WHEELAB VILLAGE, CA...SMOKE SIGNAL, manufacturers of the CHIEFTAIN (tm) Series of business computer systems, and PATHFINDER(tm) development systems, have just announced that these product lines are now available under GSA (General Services Administration) contracts.

The CHIEFTAIN and PATHFINDER computer systems are based on Motorola's 6800 and 6809 processors and are configured to the 88-50 bus. Business application software, development system software and tools, communications packages and high-level languages (such as COBOL, PASCAL, FORTRAN, BASIC) are all available from Smoke Signal for both lines of computer systems.

Smoke Signal computers range in capacity from single-user dual 5 1/4" floppy-based systems to dual 8" systems up to 8" Winchester hard disk systems with tape streamer options and multi-user capability. All Smoke Signal computer systems run OS-9 LEVEL 1 and II (tm), the UNIX-like multi-user, multi-tasking operating system developed by Microware Systems Corporation.

Smoke Signal will be exhibiting the CHIEFTAIN and PATHFINDER Series of computer systems at the Federal Computer Conference, Sept. 21-23, in Washington D.C., booth #125. Information on the new Smoke Signal GSA schedule and contract will be provided at the conference.

For further information, please contact: Jim Allday
National Sales Manager
-and-
Deborah Conrad, Manager
Dealer Sales and Support

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DAVIDSON SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

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NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

July 23, 1981

Editor
68 MICRO JOURNAL
3018 Hamill Road
P.O. Box 849
Nixson, Tennessee 37343

ENHANCED COMPUTERIZED DICTIONARY

Lansing, Michigan--Davidson Software Systems has just announced release 2 of the "Computerized Dictionary" software system. The programs run under the FLEX operating system. The product aids word processing users by editing text for spelling errors, a company spokesman said.

As in release 1, misspelled words are highlighted and can be changed automatically by the system. The system is said to operate in two modes for examining text information. In interactive mode, any words not found in the dictionary file are displayed. The operator then has an opportunity to ignore the word, key in a new word to replace it, or if the word is actually correct, add it to the dictionary file. Frequently misspelled words can be automatically changed by the system. For example, whenever the system encounters "their" it is changed to "there". As users correct their misspelled words, they can optionally instruct the system to thereafter automatically make the change.

In list mode, the spokesman explained, the text will be printed or displayed as it is being processed. Any misspelled words are highlighted on the listing. No operator intervention is required when in list mode.

Release 2 is said to operate 30% to 50% faster. A full page of text, about 425 words, can be edited in 3 1/2 minutes (depending on the system configuration). An average size letter can be edited in 2 minutes or less.

A dictionary file is included with the system, although the user can add words at any time with one key stroke. The dictionary files can also be listed or displayed. All the systems functions are accessed from a menu for operator convenience.

The system comes complete, with an installation guide and operations manual, ready to use. Current licensees may receive release 2 for a \$25.00 shipping charge. The package has a one time charge of \$100.00. For more information, contact Davidson Software Systems at Box 21002, Lansing, Michigan, 48909 or call 517-332-5989.

Released by

Richard E. Davidson, Jr.
Richard E. Davidson, Jr.

July 12, 1981
346 Evans Rd.
Nashville, TN 37204

Mr. Don Williams, Sr.
'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
P. O. Box 849
Nixson, TN 37343

Dear Sir:

Here is an item for the "Bit Bucket" that will be interesting to any fossils still using GWTPC Co-Res Editor-Assembler version 1.01. The character string search routine uses the stack pointer as an index register, but doesn't properly save it - a sure invitation to disaster. The bug is at \$1AD6, and the fix is as follows:

Old Code		New Code	
Address	Data	Address	Data
1AD6	8E	1AD6	7E
1AD7	1B	1AD7	02
1AD8	33	1AD8	95
		0295	9F
		0296	3B
		0297	8E
		0298	1B
		0299	33
		029A	7E
		029B	1A
		029C	09

The code at \$0295 - \$029F is unreachtable and I presume it's left over from some previous version of Co-Res. Anyway, it is a handy spot for patch code.

The bug doesn't cause Co-Res to bomb every time the search function is used. The stack pointer is saved at \$3B - \$3C in several other routines, and when the search routine restores the stack pointer with an LDS \$3B, it usually has the right value. But sometimes it doesn't and that's when Co-Res goes off into never-never land, taking your program with it.

Very truly yours,

William R. Hamblen
William R. Hamblen

WINDRUSH
Micro designs Ltd.

'68' MICRO JOURNAL
New Products Editor
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Nixson
Tennessee 37343 U.S.A.

Your Ref

Our Ref WCD/MK 324

Date 29/6/81

PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION

Windrush Micro Designs Ltd., Geyers Way Industrial Estate, North Walsham, Norfolk announce the introduction of their REAL WORLD INTERFACE for use in S-80 based 6800 and 6809 MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEMS. The board, as it's name implies, is intended to interface a microcomputer with industrial control systems.

FEATURES

- EIGHT CHANNELS OF RELAY OR OPTICALLY ISOLATED INPUT.
- EIGHT CHANNELS OF RELAY OR OPTICALLY ISOLATED OUTPUT.

Company Map
including Epsom
North Walsham
Norfolk NG28 0AH
Tel (06934) 6400
Telex: 675212

- Southeastern
Micro
Systems, Inc.

To Don Williams
'68' Micro Journal
Computer Publishing Inc.
3018 Hamill Road
Hixson
TN 37343
U.S.A.



August 14, 1981

Date Thursday May 7th 1981

Our Ref
Your Ref

Der Don.

As it is, currently, the literature on software representations contains many characteristics of computer software are inherently qualitative in nature. This is the case of the majority of people can "prefer" one product over another. For one, could never get on with a mini-computer, character-oriented text editors, finding that the line oriented editors were much more in tune with the way my mind worked. It is, however, quite in order to use such terms as "user-friendly", "forgiving", "easy-to-use" etc., when referring to such qualitative characteristics AND when it is clear that a subjective assessment is being made.

that a subjective assessment is being made. The quantities in many other characteristics of computer software which are amenable to the same old measurement technique loosely called "The Scientific Method". As a scientist, I am a great believer in "measurement" as an objective means of comparing the properties of things that are capable of experimental investigation and verification. That last word, verification, is very important as it is a fundamental component of the scientific method. It means that if you're going to publish numbers which are meant to be the results of a locally performed experiment, you need to provide detail should be provided about the experimental setup (such as procedures and software version) in this case to enable independent verification.

I used the Wirth algorithm as published in the article and compiled it using different Pascal language translators on the following system:

As my experimental objective was only to compare the execution times of the algorithm in different translations, I chose not to print the results, thus the only relevant hardware parameters, in this case, were processor type and clock frequency. Execution of this algorithm is independent of the DOS. The time interval between the first two primes (which were printed), and the final FLEX ---, were as follows:

(i)	Lucidata Pascal 6809 Release 2 (2.9)	183 secs
(ii)	Lucidata Pascal 6809 Release 3 (3.9)	119 secs
(iii)	TSC Pascal 6809 Version 1.0	14 secs

The P-code binaries of (ii) were also executed on a 1MHz 6800

(iv)	Lucidata Pascal 6800 Release 3 (3.2)	188 secs
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"...And things are not what they seem" (Longfellow)

Regards / Nigel

Directors: E J Bennée, N W Bennée. Reg Office: Equity House, 42 Central Square, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 7AT (Reg No. 1382816) (England)

microdyne

July 20, 1981

Mr. Don Williams, Publisher
'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hannell Road
P.O. Box 849
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

Dear Dun,

For the last few months we have advertised a RR-1 Bit Rate Converter with an upgrade kit for those who have a Southwest Technical MPA board. Although we feel that the advertisement is good, we continue to receive orders for the upgrade kit alone. However, the purpose of the kit is to allow users who purchase a RR-1 to use the chips off of an MPA board and still have a functional 6800 processor.

Of course, if someone already has another source of baud signal, then the crystal upgrade kit will give them a much more stable CPU board and increase their processor speed by approximately 12%. Also, there is a way to use the components in the kit to increase the baud rate of the serial output of the computer. However, this involves implementing the upgrade circuit by "piggy backing" the IC and making several modifications to the CPU board. We do not provide instructions for this particular approach and do not recommend the kit be purchased unless the buyer is fully aware of what they are doing.

We apologize to those who have experienced inconvenience or disappointment when their money was returned with no kil. We hope that this will clarify this problem.

Sincerely,

G. M. Holloman, Jr.

DEAR READERS:

It has recently come to our attention that our company has been confused with another company named "Southwest Micro Systems". As you may remember there was a notice printed in the July issue of the Micro Journal concerning Southwest Micro Systems and their inefficient business practices. Since the appearance of that article it seems that we have been assumed to be the company in question. You readers to please note that we are not the Southeastern Micro Systems located in Mableton, Georgia, and we are in no way affiliated with Southwest Micro Systems in Texas.

We are very proud of our growing number of satisfied customers. We have received several letters from our customers telling us how pleased they are with our products and our service. In fact, one of our customers published his letter in the April 1981 issue of the Micro Journal.

We hope that this letter will resolve any wrong ideas that the readers of the Micro Journal may have.

Sincerely,

SOUTHEASTERN MICRO SYSTEMS, INC.

Wayne Ashe
President

SYSTEM LOGO-PASSWORD PROGRAM

by Lee H. Hoffman
583 Cardinal Lane
Post Office Box 8
Mt. Sterling, KY
40353
1921 604-21-1

This program is a simple program that I believe is one night for the fun of it. It is designed to be called from FLEX-9 by the system startup procedure. I have an Startup file call it last after all SYSUT, ADM, etc. initialization is completed.

It will also use the local `ADDP SYSTEM` (see Figure 1) on the CBI and will ask for the password to be entered. If the correct password is entered, then the user will be able to obtain the password. It will also send a portion of the password and control is returned to `FILE`, returned to `FILE`. However, if the password is incorrect, the CBI is returned to the message `INVALID PASSWORD` is displayed, all the data is lost, and the user is returned to the message `INVALID PASSWORD` and control is returned to the system monitor. This will repeat as many times as the user wishes to enter the password. This will repeat as many times as the user wishes to enter the password. This will repeat as many times as the user wishes to enter the password. In addition, it allows you to see the advantages of the larger system including the ability to 'authenticate' the `ADDP` chip to any of your friends.

The program is supposed to connect to the database and read the password. The program library actually contains the source file without any password in it. Also the object program is also protected as well as the Startup file. This prevents anyone without much knowledge of the program from obtaining the password. Also I do not have any disk utility programs handy that can be used to discover the contents of the disk or copy it.

[illegible]

Figure 1

DISPLAY 7-24-01 102 ADDRESS 00 PAGE

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[illegible]

A FAST METHOD OF DATA TRANSFER

Bud Peas
Computer Systems Consultants
1454 Latta Lane
Convers, GA 30287

This article provides two short FLEX utility programs which are capable of reading data from a PIA port, implementing a local CENTRONIX interface. One program is intended to be used to send data to a printer, and the other is intended to be used to send text to a disk file. The only difference between the programs is that the second program filters most control characters from the data being placed on the disk.

This approach to data transfer has several major advantages. The primary advantage is its speed advantage over serial interfaces. Using this method, data may be transferred at 28,800 characters per second or better. Another advantage is flexibility; even non-FLEX (or non-6800) systems which implement a parallel CENTRONIX interface protocol (as most do) may be used as data sources. Still another advantage lies in its simplicity of expansion; the routines may be combined with other utilities, such as P.S.G.O.SP, etc. to perform a variety of functions. In addition, because of the inherent bidirectional handshaking arrangement of the CENTRONIX interface protocol, there is no problem in stopping the input data stream to allow time for disk I/O or a slow printer or other device.

The CENTRONIX interface protocol is defined as follows:

eight output data lines, active high;
one output data strobe line, active low;
one input data acknowledgment line, active high.

This is normally implemented on a PIA (for output) as follows:

eight output data lines (D0-D7);
output data strobe line (C2);
input data acknowledgment line (C1).

and is normally implemented on a PIA (for input) as follows:

eight input data lines (D0-D7);
input data strobe line (C1);
output data acknowledgment line (C2).

Other parallel protocols generally differ from the CENTRONIX protocol only in the sense of one or more of the lines, not in structural interpretation. Only minor changes to the routines should be necessary to interface non-CENTRONIX interface protocols.

Listings of the FLEX routines appear below. Most FLEX systems using a parallel printer will have the "A" side of the PIA used to drive the printer available. If necessary, the addresses of the PIA and ACIA may easily be changed. In order to give the user some control over the routines, the input ACIA is scanned whenever the PIA is scanned; if a key on the keyboard is struck, the routines terminate.

```

* CENTRONIX RECEIVER FOR PRINTER XFER
CD 3  WARM5 EQU $CD03 FLEX WARM START
CD18 OUTPT EQU $CD18 FLEX PUT CHARACTER
EW1C PIACA EQU $EW1C PIA ADDRESS
W0W2 PIAAB EQU $W02 SIDE A=$00, B=$02
ED04 ACIAC EQU $ED04 ACIA ADDRESS

C100
C100 7F EW1F START CLR PIACA+PIAAB+1 ADDRESS DDR
C103 7F E01E CLR PIACA+PIAAB DDR INPUTS
C106 06 34 LDA #534 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C108 B7 E01F STA PIACA+PIAAB+1 PROGRAM IT
C10B B6 E01F NEXT LDA PIACA+PIAAB+1 CHECK FOR EDGE
C10E 2B 09 DATA YES, READ IT
C110 B6 W0W4 ACIAC CHECK ACIA

C113 44
C114 24 F5 BCC NEXT NO, LOOP
C116 7E CD03 JMP WARM5 EXIT TO FLEX
C119 B6 E01E DATA LDA PIACA+PIAAB GET DATA
C11C B7 E01E STA PIACA+PIAAB RESET
C11F C6 3C LDB #53C C2 OUT MANUAL HIGH
C121 F7 E01F STB PIACA+PIAAB+1
C124 C6 34 LDB #534 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C126 F7 E01F STB PIACA+PIAAB+1
C129 BD CD18 JSR OUTPT OUT UT TO FLEX
C12C 20 DD BRA NEXT GO BACK FOR MORE
END START

```

0 ERROR(S) ETCTED

```

* CENTRONIX RECEIVER FOR FILE XFER
CD03 WARM5 EQU $CD03 FLEX WARM START
CD18 OUTPT EQU $CD18 FLEX PUT CHARACTER
EW1C PIACA EQU $EW1C PIA ADDRESS
W0W2 PIAAB EQU $W02 OFFSET A=$00, B=$02
ED04 ACIAC EQU $ED04 ACIA ADDRESS

C100
C100 7F EW1F START CLR PIACA+PIAAB+1 ADDRESS+DDR
C103 7F E01E CLR PIACA+PIAAB DDR INPUTS
C106 06 34 LDA #534 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C108 B7 E01F STA PIACA+PIAAB+1 PROGRAM IT
C10B B6 E01F NEXT LDA PIACA+PIAAB+1 CHECK FOR EDGE
C10E 2B 09 DATA YES, READ IT
C110 B6 W0W4 ACIAC CHECK ACIA

C113 44
C114 24 F5 BCC NEXT NO, LOOP
C116 7E CD03 JMP WARM5 EXIT TO FLEX
C119 B6 E01E DATA LDA PIACA+PIAAB GET DATA
C11C B7 E01E STA PIACA+PIAAB RESET
C11F C6 3C LDB #53C C2 OUT MANUAL HIGH
C121 F7 E01F STB PIACA+PIAAB+1
C124 C6 34 LDB #534 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C126 F7 E01F STB PIACA+PIAAB+1
C129 84 7F ANDA #57F MASK PARITY
C12B 81 0D CMPA #58D CR
C12D 27 08 BEQ OUTPUT
C12F 81 20 CMPA #520 SP
C131 25 08 BLO NEXT IGNORE OTHER CONTROLS
C133 81 7F CMPA #57F DEL
C135 27 04 BBO NEXT IGNORE DELS
C137 BD CD18 JSR OUTPT OUTPUT TO FLEX
C13A 2B CF BRA NEXT GO BACK FOR MORE
END START

```

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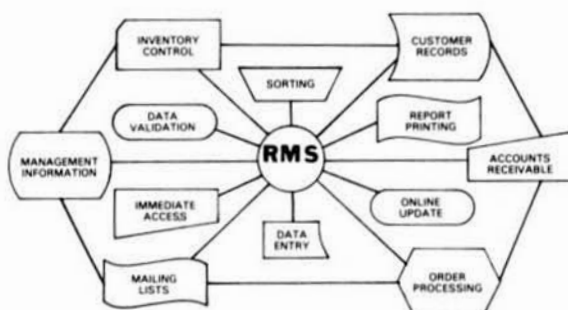
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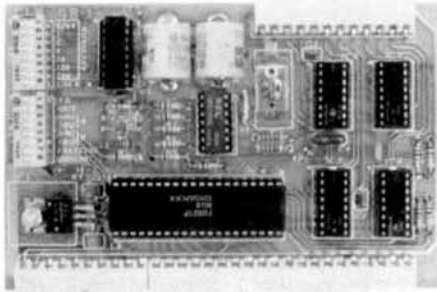
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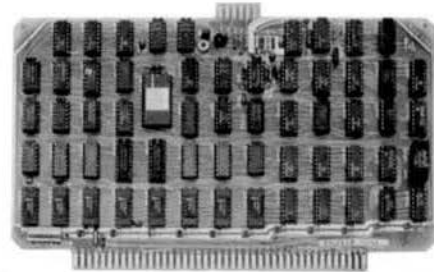
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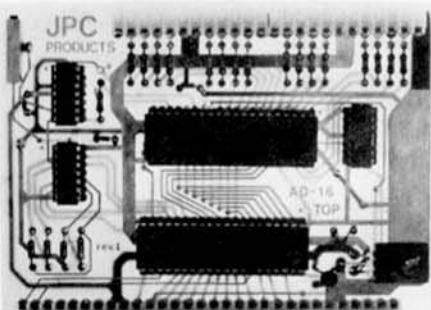
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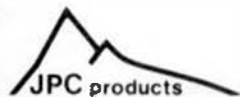
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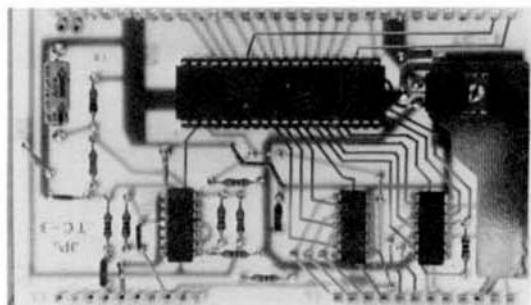
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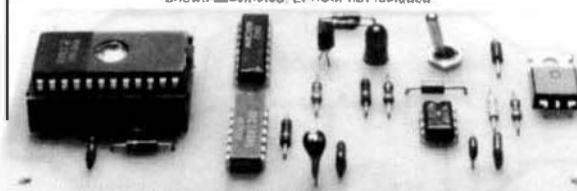
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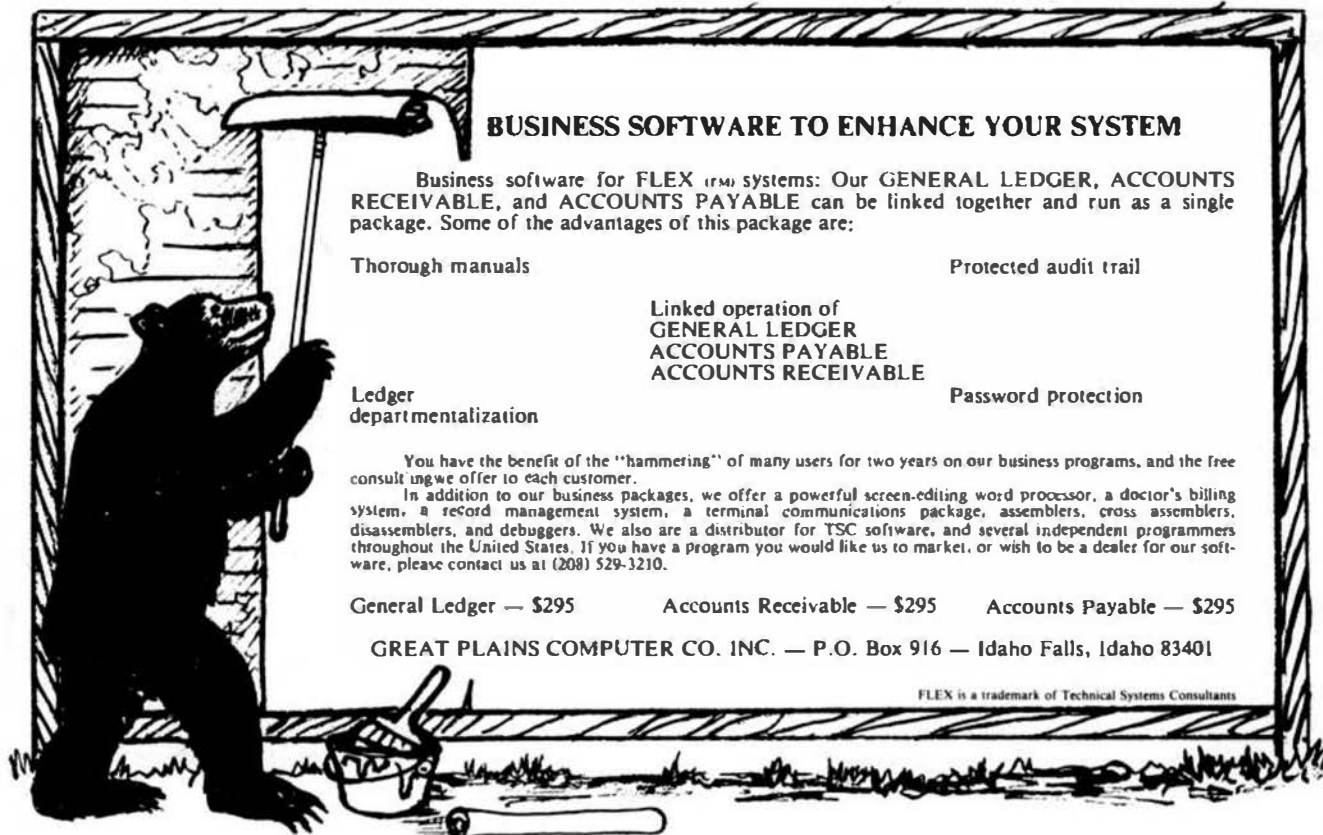
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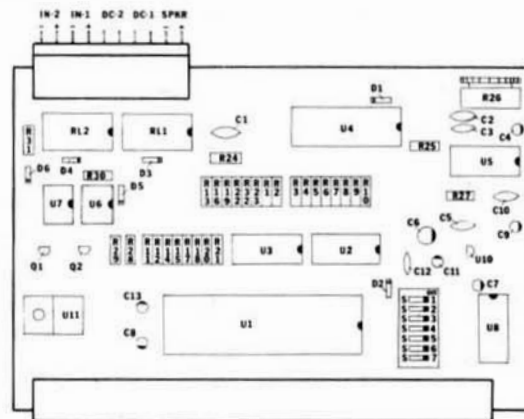
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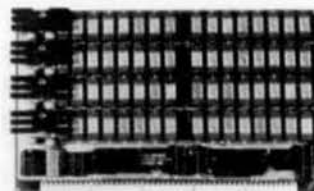
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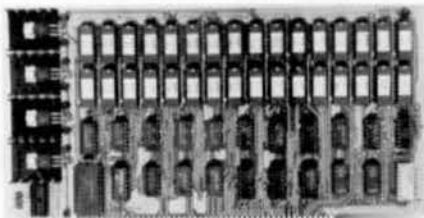
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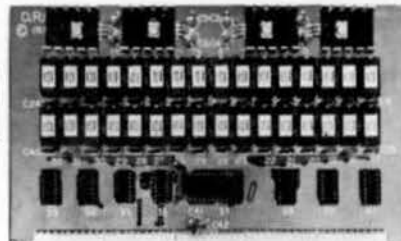
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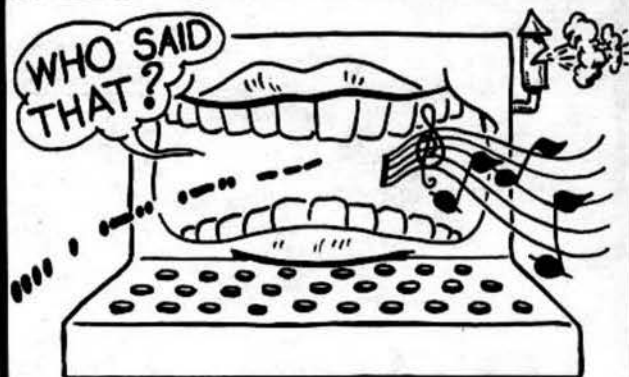


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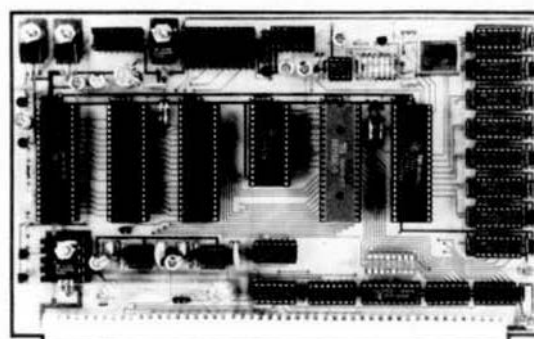
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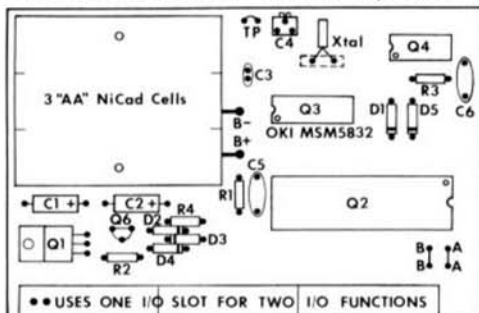
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* FULLY DOCUMENTED: instructions; diagrams; theory; more than 20 pages of sample software (automatically puts date in Flex2/9 date buffer, adds time-of-day to assembly listings, maintains constant current time+date display on top line of CRT). Batteries not included. All IC's socketed.

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Most Powerful File Handler found in any editor. Append one file to the end of another, or insert (merge) one file into another as designated by the line pointer. Print specified lines to your printer or to a disk file. Edit files larger than the text buffer. Does not produce output files when not desired. Delete disk files from the editor.

Printer commands. Control characters can be sent to the printer for format control either directly from the control terminal or by imbedding them in the text. The set command contains interface initialization and character output routines to support the SWTPC MP-C interface as well as the standard serial and parallel interfaces. Jumps are also provided to user supplied printer routines. User selects the port address (0 thru 7, A or B) thereby eliminating the need for the user to install printer software routines. Editor can be initialized for either 4 or 16 addresses per port.

Editor allows exiting to either the monitor or DOS and then reenter (Warm Start) without destroying previously prepared text in the buffer. The Restart command erases contents in the buffer without the user having to reload the Editor.

The Editor allows the user to toggle between full duplex (no echo) and half duplex (echo) as needed. It responds to commands in both upper and lower case and can be used to create assembler source code and Basic programs as well as text.

Specify 6800 or 6809, SSB or FLEX™, \$ or \$+ 45.00
Printed source listing is available for an additional 35.00

Software by Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.

Flex™ (includes Editor and Assembler) 150.00
Uniflex™ (includes one year maintenance and update) 550.00
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Assembler 50.00
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68000 Cross Assembler on 6809 250.00
Text Processor 75.00
Basic 75.00
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The following are available for 6800 only

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Software by Microware Systems Corp.

OS-9™ Level One Operating System 195.00
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BASIC09™ 195.00
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OS-9™ Interactive Debugger (Disk version) 35.00
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ABASIC on cassette (limited quantity) Phone for special price.

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8212 12" Intelligent Terminal	N/A 1145.00
8212W 8212 with word processing enhancements	N/A 1250.00
OC-1 or OC-2 5" Disk controller (limited quantity)	N/A 125.00
CT-64 Terminal kit (limited quantity)	325.00 450.00
DMF-2 8" DMA double density, double sided controller board	N/A 595.00
MP-A CPU Board	N/A 5.00
MP-A2 CPU Board	N/A 150.00
MUB-68 Multi-User Board with Multi-User Basic	N/A 150.00
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MP-R Single voltage 2716 prom programmer	N/A 114.50
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MP-T Interrupt timer	47.50 92.00
MP-8M 8K 4044 Memory board (limited quantity of kits)	180.00 275.00
S32 Universal Static Memory Board	N/A 124.50
S3216 Universal Static Memory Board with 16K Ram	N/A 375.00
S3232 Universal Static Memory Board with 32K Ram	N/A 575.00
MP-09 6809 CPU board kit (assembled board has sockets)	195.00 250.00
69 Chassis, P.S., 2MHz 6809 CPU, 8K, RAM, One Serial Port	575.00 799.00
S00 Chassis, Power Supply I/O (no processor or memory)	N/A 799.00

6800 CPU and Disk Controller Boards

Due to the relative unavailability of these SWTPC items, please refer to the next column for ELEKTRA and GIMIX alternatives. Phone to SWTPC availability.

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DPPb Dual Port Parallel Interface bare board and documentation 20.00
N/A
MBb Motherboard bareboard and documentation N/A
CPU-89b 6809-6809 CPU bareboard and documentation 50.00
(6809 is 6800 software compatible)
HUMBUG (from STAR-KITS) for CPU-89 board 40.00
2K version for 6800 (6806) 75.00
HUMBUG-09 for 6809
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MAGIC SPELL™ is supplied with a core dictionary containing thousands of common English words. The dictionary is easily modified by any text editor and can quickly be customized by the addition of technical terms or even names. Moreover, as new words are encountered in your texts, they may optionally be added to your dictionary as well. Hence the dictionary can easily be tailored to your own style of writing.

MAGIC SPELL™ is now available in versions for Technical Systems Consultants' MiniFlex, Flex 2, and Flex 9, as well as for Percom disk systems, and costs \$89.29 complete with source code on disk. OS-9 and SSB disk versions will be available soon.

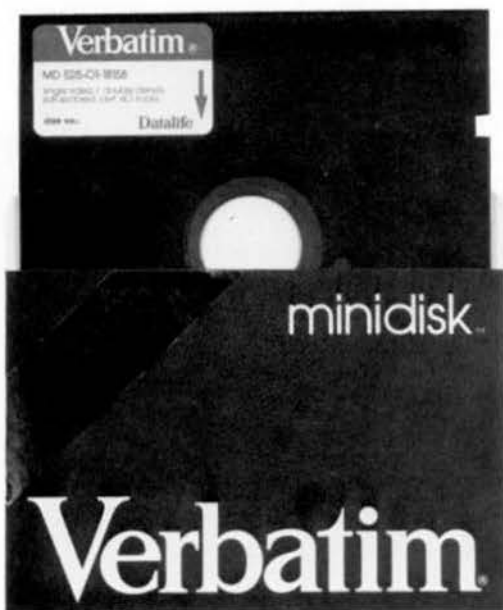
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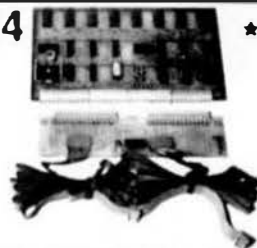
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- *mix 4K blocks of RAM and ROM
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- *5 volts only
- *low power consumption (typ. 1/2 amp with 48K RAM)
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Bare Board \$49.00 2716 1MHZ \$9.95 2016 P-2 2MHZ \$16.50

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- *Both cards assembled with a built in logic aid & gold edge connectors

SS-30 WIRE-WRAP/PROTOTYPE BOARD (board only)

\$20.00

- *Pad spacing permits most standard sockets from 8 to 64 pins

- *Provision has been made for voltage regulators

FEATURED PRODUCT: SP-1 Bare card \$49.00 Asm. + tested \$195.00

- *A super prototype board

- *Card design includes

(3) 6821 6 parallel ports

(4) 6850 4 serial ports

(1) 6840 3 16 bit counter/timers

which are fully buffered and decoded

- *Accommodates a mix of 38, 14 & 16 pin wire wrap sockets

- *Pad spacing permits most standard sockets from 8 to 64 pins

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- *SUPER CPU assembled with source listing
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- *CPU bare card, doc., & src.

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- *VIDEO RAM bare, doc, Xtal, src.

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incl. 5 PIA's for 10 ports

- *PARALLEL I/O bare card & doc.

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- *TRANSITION CARD asm.

- *TRANSITION CARD bare

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64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM BOARD . . . with Battery Back-Up



Using the latest in memory technology, the GIMIX 64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM BOARD combines the best features of previous memory boards on one board.

FULLY STATIC MEMORY with its inherent low soft error rate and freedom from alpha-particle induced errors. No complicated refresh timing or clocks required for data retention. Fully compatible with any of the 6800/6809 DMA techniques.

HIGH SPEED 200ns. memorys for guaranteed operation at 2MHz. with no wait states or clock stretching required.

ULTRA-LOW POWER CMOS RAM requires less than 1/4 AMP (250 Ma.) at 8V. for a fully populated 64K BYTE board. Less power supply loading and heat generation for cool, efficient operation.

NON-VOLATILE using an on-board nickel-cadmium battery. The board retains data even with system power removed. With the battery fully charged, the contents of the memory remain intact for a minimum of 21 days.

HIGH DENSITY permits greater memory expansion to meet the needs of todays sophisticated, multi-user/multi-tasking operating systems.

ADDRESSABLE in two 32K sections that have their own decoding for both the regular and extended (SS-50C) address lines. Each section can be addressed to any 32K boundary in the address range (1M BYTE with extended addressing). The 32K sections are divided into four 8K blocks that can be individually enabled or disabled. Disabled sections do not occupy any address space.

RELIABLE like all GIMIX products, the 64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM is designed with reliability in mind. Series damping resistors, a fully gridded power and ground layout, and generous power supply decoupling, all contribute to reliability and data integrity. An unsafe voltage detect circuit inhibits writes to the board, when the 8V. supply falls below a preset level, to prevent loss of data during the transition between system and battery power.

The GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC RAM BOARD is ideally suited to a wide variety of applications.

Its high density and ultra-low power consumption make it possible to greatly expand systems with a few available bus slots and limited power supply capabilities.

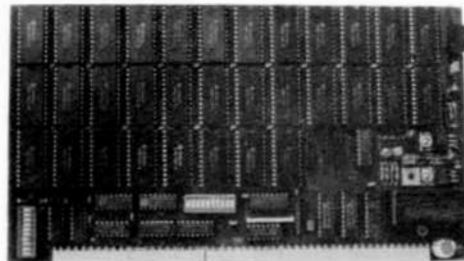
The battery back-up feature is useful where data loss due to power failure cannot be tolerated, or as a replacement for disk or tape storage where conditions such as environment prohibit their use. Since the entire board can be hardware write protected by a switch located at the top of the board, it can also be used to emulate PROM or ROM memory. This is especially useful during firmware development where frequent software changes must be made.

When the board is used in conjunction with a device such as the GIMIX MISSING CYCLE DETECTOR BOARD, which monitors the A.C. line and generates an interrupt when a power failure occurs, critical data can be stored and system integrity maintained during either expected or unexpected power outages.

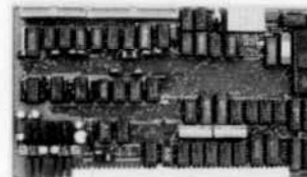
The **GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC MEMORY BOARD** is available in 56K and 64K versions. Both version include all of the above features; gold bus connectors; and come fully assembled, burned in, and tested.

56K version **\$ 994.56**
(Socketed for 64K)

64K version **\$1088.64**



GIMIX KNOCKS OUT DISK PROBLEMS



GIMIX OMA DOUBLE DENSITY DISK CONTROLLER #68

The GIMIX OMA (Direct Memory Access) Disk CON. TROLLER has the capabilities needed to realize the full potential of today's sophisticated multi-user/multi-tasking operating systems such as OS-9™ and UniFLEX™.

HIGH SPEED using bi-polar logic DMA circuitry for guaranteed operation at 2MHz. DMA transfers take place at full bus speed using 6809 cycle steal DMA. Once the required parameters are passed to the controller and DMA transfer is initiated the processor is free for other tasks. Interrupts can be generated to indicate the completion of the transfer.

SINGLE AND DOUBLE DENSITY data storage on any combination of 5 1/4" and 8" floppy disk drives; single and double headed, single and double track density, up to 4 drives total.

LOW ERROR RATES are insured by a phase lock data recovery circuit (data separator) and adjustable write precompensation circuitry for drives that require precomp. Separate precomp adjustments are provided for 5 1/4" and 8" drives.

ADDRESSABLE to any 8 byte boundary in the address space (1M byte when extended address decoding is used). The board occupies only 8 bytes of address space.

EXTENDED ADDRESSING control using the SS-50C extended address lines. Control of the extended address lines allow the board to perform DMA transfers to and from any address in the 1M byte address space.

FULLY BUFFERED with separate 5 1/4" and 8" output buffers and schmitt trigger input buffers for the disk drive signals.

The DMA controller leaves the processor free to perform other tasks once the transfer is initiated, unlike programmed I/O disk controllers which require full time use of the processor during data transfers to and from disk.

This is extremely important in a multi-user/multi-tasking environment as the processor can perform other tasks such as console I/O while a disk transfer is in progress.

#68 fully assembled, burned in, and tested **\$548.68**

GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER #28

The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO (PROGRAMMED I/O) DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use in 6809 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

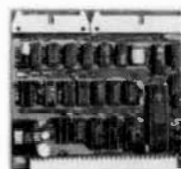
- Double the formatted storage capacity of single density controllers
- Single and double density operation
- Phase lock data recovery circuit (data separator)
- Adjustable write precompensation (precomp)
- Controls up to four 5 1/4" drives
- Controls single and double headed drives
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the Western Digital 1771 floppy disk controller I.C.

The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for systems that require greater disk storage than that provided by single density controllers, without increasing the number or type of drives. In most cases, existing 6809 systems can be upgraded by adding only the controller and the appropriate operating system software.

#28 fully assembled, burned in, and tested **\$348.28**



GIMIX 5 1/8 DISK CONTROLLER BOARD #58



The GIMIX 5 1/8 DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use with both 6800 and 6809 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

- Hardware and software compatible with existing disk controllers (SMP/PC: DC-1, DC-2 and DC-3)
- Controls up to four 5 1/8" drives in 6800 systems
- Controls any mix of 5 1/8" and 8" drives, up to four drives total, in 6809 systems
- Provides for double headed drives
- Synchronous data separator for data reliability
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the 1771 floppy disk controller I.C.

The GIMIX 5 1/8 DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for a variety of applications including the replacement of controllers in existing systems. As a replacement it can provide the added advantage of a data separator, double headed drive capability, and a 6809 system the ability to use 8" drives, double headed drives and 5 1/8" double sided disk drives appropriate operating system software.

#58 fully assembled, burned in, and tested **\$228.58**

NOTE: When ordering disk controllers please specify the make and model of the drives being used.

GIMIX 6809 FLEX™

GIMIX™ versions of TECHNICAL SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS' 6809 FLEX™ specify controller and type of drive: 8" or 5 1/4" 40 track (48TPI) or 80 track (96TPI) **\$90.00**

GIMIX versions of Technical Systems Consultants 6809 FLEX™ operating system are available for all three GIMIX disk controllers. They fully support all the features of each controller and are software compatible with other versions of FLEX™. GIMIX FLEX™ includes a disk FORMAT program that allows the user to pick the number of tracks to format, single or double sided disks, and where appropriate single or double density. GIMIX FLEX™ supports single and double track density (48 and 96 TPI) 5 1/4" drives and allows 96 TPI (80 track) drives to read, write, or format 48 TPI (35 or 40 track) disks.

MICROWARE™ OS-9™ level 1 for GIMIX™ SYSTEMS specify controller and type of drive: 8" or 5 1/4" 40 TRACK (48TPI) or 80 track (96TPI) **\$195.00**

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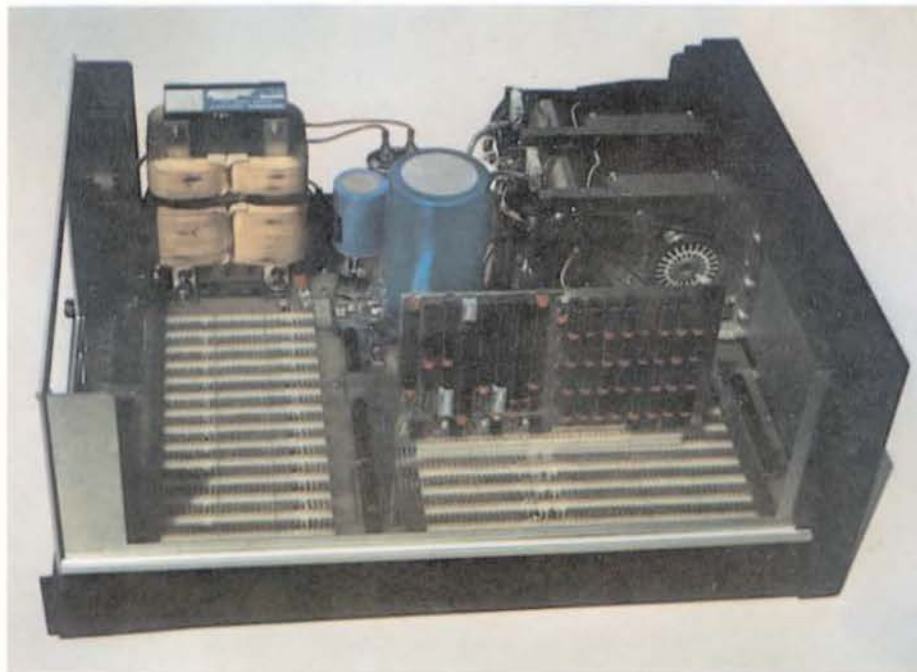
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- Provision for Programmers Console
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FORTH applications span a wide range of tasks. It is ideal for laboratory instrument control, data acquisition and analysis, process control, interactive systems, and real-time systems. It has been used for Astronomy through Zoology with the practical worlds of aircraft simulations, automated banking, and computerized bulletin boards in between.

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Users of FORTH report productivity gains of 2 to 10 over their other development tools. FORTH develops faster and runs faster than most BASICs or PASCALS (see time comparisons in '68' Micro Journal, 1981, Feb. p.14, April p.14 (compare equivalent algorithms), and May p.27).

firmFORTH™ produces equally fast, but much more compact code. It is simple to develop and test complex systems using †FORTH, then use firmFORTH to produce a compact runnable product.

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Basic complete FORTH system with text Editor, debugging tools, and vocabulary to interface with FLEX.

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†FORTH plus 2nd screen editor, full macro assembler, extended data types, CASEs, additional diskettes with GOING FORTH (a computer aided instruction course on FORTH written in FORTH) and GOODIES #1 (a collection of debugging and documentation tools, games, execution simulator, generalized formatted numerical input, and miscellaneous utilities). Individual parts of †FORTH+ are available for previous purchasers of †FORTH.

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For doing target compilations to runnable code. Ideal for developing prompts for instruments or even complete operating systems! Automatically deletes unused code and unneeded dictionary information. New Version 3.0 can compile directly to memory or to disk storage (the latter permits development of larger programs), and contains code for developing interrupt service routines. Includes full source code for target compiler as well as the essential portions of the full FORTH nucleus. Requires but does not include †FORTH+.

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